

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

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## Grad students consider strike

Low stipends cited as main problem; GRO says strike is unlikely

BY BRENDAN SCHREIBER  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Anger among Hopkins graduate students has recently reached new levels, prompting some to consider a strike in an effort to elicit a stipend increase from the University. If they were to refuse to work, it would be the first-ever instance of a strike at Hopkins.

Citing the inability to cover the rising cost of living, some graduate students have been forced to take on multiple part-time jobs due to what they consider an unacceptably low payment for their work as teaching and research assistants.

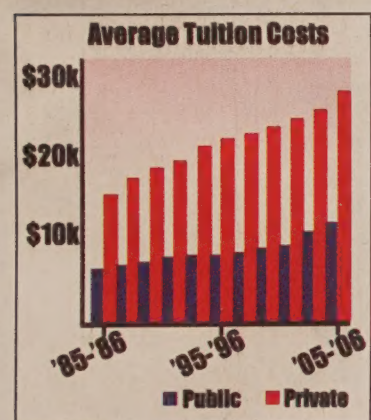
The leadership of the Graduate Representative Organization flatly denied that any strike was in the works, though they recognized that the number of complaints regarding stipends is on the rise.

"We are not talking about a strike. And there's no strike imminent. I think there's been some idle speculation," said GRO Co-Chair Ben Tilghman.

Among its many other functions, the GRO serves as the official liaison between Hopkins graduate students and the administration.

Stipends have become a contentious

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WILLIAM PARSHALK/NEWS-LETTER

This graph notes the disparity between tuition and inflation since '85.

## Tuition outpaces inflation

BY SIOBHAN PAGANELLI  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The College Board's annual survey on trends in college pricing indicates that while rates of tuition increase have lessened since skyrocketing in the past two years, they continue to surpass inflation.

At the 3,000 four-year public universities surveyed, average tuition in 2005-2006 rose to \$5,491, an increase of \$365, or 7.1 percent. Private universities rose to \$21,235, up \$1,190 (5.9 percent).

While these rates are certainly less than the ten and 13 percent increases seen in recent years, they remain a burden to students who are strapped for funding their educations. When room and board, books, supplies, fees and other expenses are taken into account, students at public institutions in their own states are now averaging costs of \$15,556, while their counterparts at private institutions are facing sums averaging \$31,016.

"I do think that maybe there's a couple universities out there that legitimately need to raise their tuition costs. But there is definitely a market increase in tuition cost," said sophomore Teresa Romeo, who receives financial aid.

These expenses are a result of a vari-

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## Sophomore passes away at Union Memorial

While officials say no foul play is suspected, cause of death remains unknown until autopsy is complete

BY XIAO-BO YUAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Sophomore Gilbert Duvalsaint died as a result of yet-undetermined medical reasons at approximately 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning at Union Memorial Hospital, after being rushed to the hospital from the Bradford Apartments earlier that day, said Hopkins officials.

An ambulance transported 19-year-old Duvalsaint to the Union Memorial emergency room between 3 and 4 a.m., after he called

an emergency service for what he thought to be symptoms of an allergic reaction, said Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell.

While doctors were evaluating him for a possible allergic reaction, Duvalsaint's condition worsened, and they were unable to determine the origins of his symptoms before he died roughly six or seven hours after he had entered the emergency room.

"His condition very rapidly deteriorated," said Hopkins spokesman Dennis O'Shea.

An autopsy report was per-

formed Wednesday night to determine the cause of death.

According to Hopkins security officer Lt. Steven Ossmus, Duvalsaint's death showed no signs of foul play, and Hopkins security was not called to investigate.

Many aspects of Duvalsaint's death remain unclear, including the specific symptoms he suffered. Autopsy results, expected to be finalized on Thursday afternoon, may provide more clues for the cause.

Hospital officials could not com-

ment on the conditions of his death or the specific symptoms that doctors observed.

"We can't release any information about the patient until his family members have approved, to protect the patient's confidentiality," said Union Memorial's media spokesperson Debra Schindler.

Shortly after Duvalsaint's death, Union Memorial Hospital representatives notified members of his family, who also spoke to administrators in the Hopkins Office of Student

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COURTESY RAJIV SHENOY  
Sophomore 'Gil' Duvalsaint passed away Wednesday.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Graduate student Rhiannon Bartlet plays with her dog, Kipling, in Wyman Dell, which has received funding for improvements.

## Plans made to restore Wyman Park

BY ERICA MITRANO  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Over a century after the creation of Wyman Park Dell, the community group Friends of Wyman Park Dell is spearheading an effort to renovate the Dell and restore it to its original condition.

Wyman Park Dell lies just off the Homewood campus, nestled between Art Museum Drive, W. 29th Street and N. Charles Street, across from the Homewood Apartments. The Dell is part of 16-acre Wyman Park, which was designed at the turn of the 20th century by sons of renowned urban planner Frederick Law Olmstead to serve as an oasis of greenery in north Baltimore.

Participating in the project's steering committee are the Baltimore Museum of Art, The Johns Hopkins University, the Charles Village Association and the

Remington Improvement Association.

One of the people involved with the project is Mark Demshak, the director of architecture and planning at Johns Hopkins. Hopkins, Demshak says, is helping with the upkeep of the Dell, contributing \$10,000 towards the creation of a plan for the renovation as well as donating Demshak's time to work on the project. In addition, he said, Hopkins ground crews help maintain the park. "It's an important landscape for us in Baltimore," he said.

Hopkins students have also been participating in the conservation effort. On Saturday, Sept. 10, Hopkins students, including the Hopkins baseball team, participated in the James W. Rouse Community Service day to help clean up Wyman Park Dell. Students cleaned trash, pruned trees, cleared brush and removed invasive species, while a Baltimore city grounds crew planted flowers and shrubs.

Senior Philip Tsang, who participated in the cleanup, said, "I think we did some good for the trees." Tsang hasn't been back to the Dell since then, however. "There are no destinations across the park," he said. "It's just inconvenient and it's not that nice."

Tsang also commented that the Dell needs further improvement, citing the smell of sewage in part of the park and leavings from the dogs frequently walked there. "It would be nice to see some trees growing again," he added.

Senior Richard Tang also volunteered in the Rouse Day cleanup. He thought the efforts of Hopkins students made a big difference. Before the cleanup "it just looked like the rest of Baltimore — run down. Now it looks like what a park in a city should be." Asked what other changes he'd like to see made to the Dell Tang said, "It just needs to be cleaned up a little bit."

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## Campus bike thefts on the rise

BY AMY SHEERAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins Campus Safety and Security is currently investigating a sharp increase in the number of on-campus bicycle thefts, all of which appear to have been committed by two non-students, said Executive Director of Campus Safety and Security Edmund Skrodzki.

"Investigation shows there are at least two teenage (non-student) males responsible, and we are pursuing all investigative leads to identify and apprehend them," Skrodzki said via e-mail.

Between Oct. 17 and Oct. 25, 14 bicycle thefts were reported to Campus Safety and Security, two of which were recovered. During the rest of this academic year for which Security kept records — the period between Sept. 5 and Oct. 17 — only three such thefts were reported, according to the security Web site's daily incident reports. Other forms of crime do not appear to have noticeably increased.

All of the thefts, save one theft of an unsecured bicycle, were committed in the same manner. "Each of the recent bicycle thefts is attributed to the use of small, concealable cutters that easily defeat the common cable locks," Skrodzki said.

In response, security officers have begun replacing cable locks with U-bolt locks on bicycles on campus, making them harder to steal. Skrodzki said students whose bikes are locked in this manner will find a note attached to their bicycle and should call security to have the lock removed.

Bicycle theft has increased on the Hopkins campus despite decreased crime overall in the Northern District, the Baltimore police district which include Charles Village, Hampden, Park Heights and Waverly, among other neighborhoods.

According to Officer Doug Gibson of the Community Relations Office for the Northern District of Baltimore, reported larcenies — the category that would include bicycle thefts — are down 26 percent year-to-date. During the past 28 days, burglaries are 25 percent lower compared to the same time last year.

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## Neighbors encourage parking restrictions

BY JAMES LEE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

As the number of parking spots around the Homewood campus continues to decrease, neighboring communities are tightening parking restrictions and demanding increased enforcement on pre-existing parking permit policies.

On a block-by-block basis, many Hopkins neighbors are petitioning for residential parking permit designation (RPP) as construction projects and increased car ownership have both reduced the number of available parking spaces and increased the demand for the few remaining ones.

Some communities with pre-existing RPP policies, such as Oakenshaw, which has a 26-year-old program, are pushing for tighter enforcement of existing rules.

"We need to have our streets cleared and allow our residents to

park. ... There's been a huge influx of cars; we have to intervene on behalf of the residents," said Rebecca Bridger, co-president of the Oakenshaw Neighborhood Association.

According to Bridger, enforcement has been stepped up periodically since June and has led to improved availability in neighborhood parking.

The RPP areas are designated by street signs that limit non-resident parking to a two-hour basis, with a \$42 fine for violators. Students living RPP areas can apply for a permit through Baltimore Parking Authority. However, students renting sublets may not obtain a permit because proof of residency, such as a lease or utility bill, is required.

The tightening restrictions will pose difficulties for car-owning undergraduates living in sublets within a mile of campus. They can neither apply for an RPP nor park on campus

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### INSIDE

#### Ready, Set, Go!

Experience up close the intensity, the camaraderie and the fun that is the annual Baltimore marathon, all without breaking a sweat yourself. PHOTO ESSAY B12

#### Weblogs

A new undergraduate-created Web site brings blogs to the Hopkins community with the hope of increasing communication between students and faculty. SCIENCE A8

#### Football wins

Football defeated Muhlenberg this past week, securing the Centennial Conference championship. Read all about the game. SPORTS A12

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#### Halloween

All Hallows Eve is this Monday, and Baltimore is chock-full of ways to have a great time. Let us help you plan your night. FOCUS B2



# Funding received to rebuild Wyman

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Sophomore Liz Eldridge enjoys visiting Wyman Park Dell. "I definitely enjoy stopping by and playing on the swings," she said.

"It's nice to sit in the park and watch the world go by, and have picnics." When asked what changes she would like to see made, she said, "I affirm that I would like to see more swings."

While they enjoy the parks some Hopkins students expressed concern about safety there. Tsang commented that he doesn't consider the park safe at night, but doesn't think security should be a priority.

"I guess they could patrol it or something," he said, "but I don't think it's worth the expense. I mean, we have the quads, after all."

Captain George Kibler of Hopkins security confirmed in an email that there have been incidents in Wyman Park Dell.

"During the past two years," he said, "there have been two reported incidents from the area. One was an indecent exposure, and a warrant was obtained for the suspect. The second was a robbery of an affiliate, and the suspect was arrested."

Kibler said that Hopkins security does not currently patrol Wyman Park Dell because it is public property.

However, he added, "We routinely patrol the park area where students use the streets around the park going to and from campus. We also will adjust our patrols to in-



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Christopher Kelly and Jerrett Davis enjoy a game of football in Wyman Park, which will soon be rebuilt.

clude the park area as needs dictate."

Kibler urged students to exercise caution when using the park. "While the dell may be a vibrant and nice place during the daylight, as with any other place that is not active and lively with pedestrian or vehicular activity and secluded, careful consideration should be used if going there after dark, especially alone."

"Good sense has to be applied when considering lightly attended and secluded locations after darkness has set in."

Security concerns have not deterred the proponents of the renovation of Wyman Park Dell, however. While the renovation plan is still in its planning stages, Demshak

listed some of the problems with the Dell that the plan will address.

"There's erosion, there's walls that are deteriorating, there's poor drainage ... beyond that, we don't know. It has to come from the people throughout Wyman Park Dell are boxes containing questionnaires asking park visitors for their opinions about the Dell. Responses are due October 31, 2005.

Waters also encouraged Hopkins

students to visit the dell. "A bunch of Hopkins young people set up a volleyball net a few years back," he said.

He added, "It's a wonderful place for young people to sunbathe. There's a nice playground for

the kids." In addition to being a good place for students to go, Wyman Park Dell is valuable to the entire community, Waters said.

"We value the Dell as a place to go, as a community asset, a common resource. We want to take care of it and improve it if possible."

It has to come from the people to be a successful project.

— MARK DEMSHAK, HOPKINS DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

## ERRATA

No errors were reported for the Oct. 20 issue.

# Residents to limit parking options

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

under the existing policy.

Also, students whose cars are not registered in Maryland are required to register for a Maryland MVA non-resident permit as the Baltimore Parking Authority cannot issue an RPP permit for over 60 days to non-Maryland vehicles.

Construction at and around the Homewood campus has been cited as a significant contributor to the lack of parking spaces. Thus far 610 spaces are eliminated due to the Decker Quad construction and the developments related to Charles Village Projects are expected to absorb another 120 spaces.

The reduction of on-campus parking is forcing University drivers — staff, faculty, students and visitors — to park in surrounding communities, provoking surrounding neighborhoods to step up the push for regulation and enforcement.

The newly-opened San Martin Center garage partially relieves the parking shortage by providing 339 spaces on the western edge of campus. According to Greg Smith, the loss of on-campus parking is mostly expected to be replaced with the Ellerslie and Eastern campus satellite lots that are connected by shuttles. The shuttles run at 10 or 20 minute intervals, taking about 10 minutes to reach Homewood from the satellite lots. Shuttle trips are scheduled for as early as 5:40 a.m. but only run until 9:35 p.m.

University parking can cost anywhere between \$30 /month for the satellite lots to \$95/month for on-campus garage reserved parking. However, as of Sept. 26, the only available options are the Ellerslie satellite lot and garage parking at the San Martin Center, the latter of which costs \$70/month.

A gradual increase in residence density and car ownership over the past decades is another cause for the growing difficulty to find parking space. Seventeen-foot wide row houses with street parking for one car can house as many as six students, while more than one student

may own a car. Likewise, families with two working parents may have two cars. According to Charles Village Civic Association President Beth Bullamore, some row houses have as many as five cars each.

Apartment buildings such as the Charles and Wyman Towers lead a more severe version of the type of shortage mentioned above.

This combination of students owning cars off campus and construction reducing on-campus parking for staff and Hopkins events is leading to what Salem Reiner, director of Community Affairs, describes as an "aggravated" community.

"Most people don't listen ... It's sort of getting to a point where something needs to be done," Reiner said.

Community residents now field a list of parking grievances that they believe the University is at least partly responsible for.

A sample of these complaints include students' cars being parked for weeks on end, non-resident cars congregated around shuttle stops and the lack of residential parking during University hours. Many residences have complained that they needed to go as far as four blocks away to find parking.

"This is not a student versus residents problem, this is everybody's problem; we're just trying to manage the problem. I don't know how, there's not going to be a one size fits all for community," said Bullamore.

Nonetheless, many students believe in the benefits of having a car at hand. "Having a car makes it more convenient when I need to go home ... It lets me live on my own schedule," said senior Brian Follweiler, who brought his car from his home in Pennsylvania during sophomore year and has since accumulated over \$600 in parking fines.

Follweiler, however, does not find it difficult to park around his row house on 30th Street.

"I find parking for the most part, the most difficult time to find spots is around 10 p.m. The further off campus you get, the less parking problems you have," he said.

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NEWS

# Security fights rise in bike theft

*Continued from Page A1*  
Gibson also said the increase in theft seems specific to the Hopkins campus. "I don't think we've had any particular increase in the Charles Village area in crime," he said.  
While Gibson said there is typically a rise in theft in the fall, around the holidays, he expressed surprise at such a sharp increase.  
"Even for high-end bikes, there's not a big market," he said. "I don't know what they're doing with them."  
Students were notified of the thefts via an e-mail sent on Oct. 20. The e-mail warned students that all of the thefts were committed by cutting a cable lock, and it advised students to use a U-bolt lock rather than a cable lock. It also informed students that security officers would be replacing cable locks.  
Additionally, "leaflets informing the students of the recent increase in bicycle thefts and suggestions to prevent further thefts were distributed throughout campus," Skrodzki said.

Students were also directed to Campus Safety and Security's Web site, <http://www.jhu.edu/security>, where bicycles can be registered so that, in the event they are recovered, they can be returned.  
Finally, students were asked to "report any suspicious individuals or activity observed around bicycle racks" by calling the Security office at (410) 516-4600.  
Skrodzki also asked students to be on the lookout for anyone riding a bicycle and pulling another one behind him, as this can be an indication of theft.  
Some of the newly installed surveillance cameras "have provided video footage [of the thefts], which will assist in the identification of the thieves," Skrodzki said.  
However, the cameras' use is limited, as they are not currently set up around academic areas, according to cable plant project manager Michael Cleveland. "The highest priority was to cover dormitories around all the AMRs and the Homewood, where students travel and live."



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER  
**Sophomore Peter Sargent locks his bike with the suggested U-bolt lock.**

Cleveland said the project is "moving toward the center of campus," and that "the next set [of cameras] is designed more around the academic set of buildings."  
Five bicycles were stolen from the bike racks outside of the MSE library; other bicycles were stolen near Maryland Hall, Shaffer Hall, the Mattin Center, Hodson Hall, Gilman Hall, Building B, the Bloomberg Center and outside of the Gatehouse.  
Skrodzki said that the names of victims of bicycle theft could not be released.  
According to the daily incident reports, the bicycle stolen from outside Maryland Hall on Oct. 20 was recovered in front of Wolman Hall,

but its quick-release seat was missing. The one stolen outside of Bloomberg on Oct. 21 was recovered the same day nearby in the woods.  
Sophomore Jonathon Smits wasn't particularly worried about the safety of his bike, which he usually locks outside of MSE and Krieger Hall, and he said he hasn't changed the way he locks it in response to the thefts.  
"I use both a U-bolt and a cable lock," he said. "I use the U-bolt for the back wheel and the frame, and I use the cable lock for my front wheel."  
"I doubt anyone really wants to steal just my front tire, so I feel like it's safe," he said.

# Testing board changes GRE format

BY AMANDA DIOS  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Educational Testing Services (ETS) has announced that changes will occur to the GRE (Graduate Record Examinations) in October of 2006.  
Concluding four years of research, ETS has determined that these new changes will not only make better predictions of how graduate students would do, but also make the test more secure.  
Susan Kaplan, the Director of Graduate Programs for the Kaplan Test Preparation and Admissions Department said, "The test will change in its length, content, scoring, format and frequency."

The GRE's will be change from two-and-a-half hour test to a four-hour test in order to account for its new 40 minute verbal and quantitative sections. The analytical writing section will be reduced from 75 to 60 minutes. Although the prompts will be more focused, the number of essay prompts, two, will not change.  
Because the ETS is trying to change the GRE into a test that is based more on skills related to graduate work, they are making changes to both the quantitative and verbal reasoning sections.  
ETS will be removing the analogies and antonyms from the verbal reasoning section. In its place, the GRE will be more focused on

critical reading questions. There will also be less dependence of vocabulary than there has been in the past tests.  
The quantitative reasoning section will consist on fewer Geometry based problems. Data interpretation will take its place. A new feature in this section is the on-screen calculator. The calculator will make it easier for students to complete the quantitative section.  
Kaplan said, "Many of the test takers may find this content to be a bit more rigorous."  
The scoring in the new GRE will also change. The current scale of 200-800 will be replaced by a scale of 120-179 in order to account for the new time and content changes.

Graduate schools will also need to adjust to these scoring changes. Kaplan said, "Graduate schools will need to come up with a plan in terms of how they will evaluate the scores if the student took the current exam instead of the new exam." Kaplan added, "We certainly encourage students, for the target schools that they are interested in, to contact the schools and find out what their policy is going to be."  
Kaplan feels that the changes in the format will be beneficial to the test taker: "In terms of benefits, one of the things that's changing is the format of the exam and it is going to move to a computer-based test, so it's going to be linear. Anybody who comes to take the exam on a given day will have the same questions as they are going through it."

These changes will help make the test more secure for the students who are taking it. Students will no longer have to worry about others having an unfair advantage over them because they memorized the questions on the GRE.  
Kaplan said, "With the current format, there have been some incidences of people memorizing the questions, posting them up on the Internet, and then there is an unfair advantage. With this test's clean administration, with every time new questions, they take a security risks out of the questions."  
In keeping with this new secure administration system, the GRE will only be administered 29 times a year. The current version allows students to take the GRE almost any day of the week. This security measure will prevent students from memorizing questions and having an unfair advantage on the test.  
Students seem to agree with the changes made to the content of the test. Byron Masi, a junior at Hopkins, said, "The geometry change is good. Most people that go to grad school don't really need it. Critical reading is also good because it's not limited to your background."  
Masi is also happy to be here about the heightened security that the new version of the GRE will offer. He said, "I think it's best that it's fair for everyone who takes it."  
Nina Torres, a Hopkins Senior, dislikes the idea that the test will be more lengthy than usual and will only be available 29 times a year.  
Torres said, "Longer definitely isn't fun, and the fact that it's given only on given days is inconvenient."  
She expressed concern that the days that the test is available might not fit into a student's already busy schedule.  
She did, however, think that the content changes will make the test a better indicator of a student's success in graduate school: "Real-life problems make sense because this isn't the SAT anymore. They let students have a feel for real life situations they actually use. It makes more sense."  
Kaplan Learning Center will be offering special events, such as seminars, and tutoring in order to help prepare students for the new test. More information can be found on its web site, [www.kaptest.com/graduate](http://www.kaptest.com/graduate), or by calling 1-800-Kap-Test.

# JHU outperforms study's findings

BY SAL GENTILE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Despite national statistics showing that the gap in college acceptance and graduation rates between students with similar academic credentials but differing socioeconomic backgrounds has been growing, Johns Hopkins University officials report a lesser discrepancy than most universities.  
Two studies recently released by the College Board, conducted over the course of the past year, indicate that the link between the socioeconomic status of students and their attendance and graduation at both public and private universities has grown increasingly distinct.  
This follows the fact that increases in financial aid dispensation have failed to keep up with average hikes in tuition, despite the slight deflation such tuition increases have recently seen.

"Our numbers would suggest that Hopkins is doing better than most in this regard," said William Conley, dean of enrollment and academic services.  
"I think that, actually, historically, over the past ten years our profile would show ... that we have done quite well in comparison to other highly competitive 4-year private universities," Conley added.  
At a press conference announcing the College Board's conclusions and resulting recommendations, College Board President Gaston Caperton highlighted the findings as indicative of a larger social and economic problem.

"Socioeconomic status and college success cannot be separated from the serious problem of unequal academic opportunity within our schools," Caperton said.  
Caperton acknowledged that schools have made significant strides toward increasing the availability of financial aid for low-income students, but that such efforts aren't keeping pace with the kinds of augmentation tuitions at public and private universities have seen, even as such increases slowed or remained static.  
"It is heartening to see new efforts from colleges and universities... focused on finding ways to reduce college costs, and we trust that those efforts will continue and increase," he said. "In the coming years, our country cannot afford to have segments of our population left out of higher education."  
But Caperton cautioned that efforts to increase financial aid would do little to accomplish the lofty goal of providing the universal opportunity to attend and graduate from college regardless of disparities in the socioeconomic statuses of potential students without additional efforts.  
"Although there are more students from low-income families with college aspirations and more first-generation college students, we need to do a better job of seeing these students through to graduation," he said.  
"In addition to increasing the affordability of higher education, we need to make sure that stu-

dents from all backgrounds have the opportunity to prepare for college."  
The study noted that public universities had seen significant decreases in average tuition hikes recently, but that increases in tuition at private universities like Johns Hopkins had remained steady.  
Conley agreed that although the study isn't indicative of Hopkins, there is a clear trend in the data that suggests a growing economic disparity between students of different economic statuses in college admission and graduation.  
"I certainly have seen the evidence that ... if you hold constant academic qualifications... that students from the upper quartile socioeconomically are far more likely to attend a 4-year college and graduate than students in the lowest quartile socioeconomically with the same academic qualifications," Conley said.  
He cautioned, however, that the University hasn't foregone additional efforts to work even further toward the goal of providing access to a Hopkins education for as many qualified individuals as possible. "That's not to say ... that we're satisfied with that — we're not," Conley said.  
Conley admitted that, in reference to the wider and more ingrained social and economic problems cited by Caperton, Hopkins's record of more adequately providing access to those who wouldn't normally be able to afford a college education could become progressively harder to maintain.

"We do believe that's going to be increasingly more difficult to sustain as we see broader issues related to affordability to students," Conley said.  
He noted several factors that would make it difficult for Hopkins to sustain a level of growth with respect to its financial aid dispensation that keeps pace with the rate at which its tuition increases.  
He pointed to Hopkins's relatively small yet widely distributed endowment (among the eight different schools), as well as the fact that the University is not yet need-blind in its system of awarding financial aid.  
"Since we are not currently in a position where we're a need-blind university, we will continue to struggle with the ability to provide access universally," Conley said.  
Hopkins' efforts to stave off the potential inability to provide as broadly as possible the opportunity to attend the school regardless of a student's socioeconomic circumstances include trying to raise more funds for scholarships and financial aid.  
"We know this exists, and we are redoubling efforts in the current campaign to raise significant financial aid dollars," Conley said.  
"It is a very difficult dance," he conceded, "but one in which we are willing to learn the steps."  
Tuition at Hopkins increased 4.9 percent last year, while the average for private universities nationally was close to 7 percent, according to the College Board's study.

# Duvalsaint, 19, dies of unknown causes

*Continued from Page A1*  
Life. According to Boswell, the University was informed of Duvalsaint's death around noon Wednesday, after his family had heard the news.  
A chemical and biomolecular engineering and mathematics major, Duvalsaint was a native of Searingtown, N.Y., a small town on Long Island. He was also a brother in the Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) fraternity.  
Friends, fellow Pi Kappa Alpha brothers and other students gathered in Levering Hall and McCoy Hall after the sudden tragedy, meeting with members of the Counseling Center and the University chaplain to share their grief.  
According to Barbara Baum, the clinical program manager for the Counseling Center, the center responded to student concerns shortly after they received the news, making counselors available to students who needed support.

Baum advised students who are affected by the tragedy to prioritize emotional healing in the coming weeks.  
"It's important to feel that it's okay to take care of themselves," Baum said. "Most professors will be open and understanding if they want extra time or extensions on papers and exams."  
She added, "Everyone grieves differently. Students should respect themselves enough to give themselves what they need."  
The Counseling Center, located in Garland Hall, is available for appointments Monday through Fridays, with 24-hour service through the campus security department.  
Plans for a memorial service and funeral for Duvalsaint have not yet been finalized.  
"We know there's going to be a funeral in New York," Boswell said, "but we don't know any details yet."



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NEWS

# Graduate students decry low stipends

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1**  
issue on a national level, as the supply of funding for graduate study—much of which is provided by the federal government—has dropped of late. “Right now we’re doing a search for the dean of the [Krieger] School of Arts and Sciences,” said Provost Steven Knapp, “and among committee members there’s been a lot of discussion about the priorities of the school. One of the issues that there is unquestionably a concern for is the money for graduate students.” “We know from conversations with administrators that they understand stipends are low for students to the point where grad students in mostly the humanities and the social sciences are having trouble making ends meet,” said GRO Chair Chris Long. Though she recognized that the University is making efforts to raise graduate student stipends, she noted, “There’s no immediate increase as far as we know.” The hardship caused by a low stipend goes beyond difficulty paying rent and an overall tightened budget, according to Tilghman. If a graduate student cannot cover living expenses, he often must take on a part-time job, which means he has less time for research, leading to an overextended research period and extra months or years of work toward obtaining a degree. Furthermore, many graduate students earn their stipends by

working as teaching assistants. This is your primary duty as a student at Hopkins,” Tilghman. “When you have to take on more jobs, that means you have less time for class and less time to focus on your duties as a TA.” Facing similar difficulties, graduate students at Columbia University went on strike in April to have their stipends increased and their set of benefits improved upon. Teaching assistants with held grades and contacted the parents of undergraduates, asking them to put pressure on the administration to meet their demands. Eventually the administration folded and worked with the graduate students to devise an appropriate compromise. Long said, “There are some grad students here who think that their stipends are getting lower and lower as the cost of living goes up, and they look at Columbia and think, ‘Maybe we should try that here.’” She added that this is not the position of the GRO and that the relationship between the administration and the organization is currently amicable. Knapp commented that the University hopes the situation will not deteriorate to the point where a strike becomes a viable option. The only way to avoid such a situation is to maintain an open dialogue, he said. “As a research university, graduate students are crucial to who we are and what we do. They are the scholars of the future,” Knapp added.

# Researchers study herbal medicine

As Univ. of Md. builds new facility, Hopkins continues to examine natural remedies

**BY CHRIS SERENI**  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

On Thursday, Oct. 13, officials at the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute unveiled a plan to build a \$60 million research and manufacturing facility in Western Maryland to investigate the health benefits of herbal plants and market herbal medicines. Frostburg State University and West Virginia University were also involved with the plan. Responding to questions on whether or not Hopkins is also concerned with research in herbal remedies, Doctor Ted Poehler, Vice President for Research, said, “There are a variety of investigators interested in natural product. There are definitely interests in natural products and alternative medicine [at Hopkins].” One person who is active in the field of herbal research is Dr. Paul Talalay, professor of pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Talalay has devoted his career to cancer research, focusing his efforts on achieving early protection against cell damage. His findings, concerning an enzyme in broccoli used as a detoxifier against cancerous chemicals, attracted worldwide attention as a major breakthrough in understanding the potential link between cruciferous vegetable consumption and reduced cancer risk. “We’ve been

very interested in this issue,” he said, “particularly on the side of prevention.” Talalay has mixed feelings about herbal supplements in today’s society. “Anyone who believes that the health food store is safe is totally wrong,” he said, citing cases of heart attack and other fatal diseases caused by dietary and herbal supplements. According to Talalay, “The idea that everything organic is better or healthier [is also wrong].” “Everyone is interested in dietary supplements,” he said, “but they have many dangerous side effects.” Dr. Talalay mentioned that many people take supplements, thinking that they are harmless compared to ordinary medicines, but the most dangerous and poisonous compounds known to man are from natural sources.” Talalay believes that scientific principle is overlooked in the field of herbal medicines and supplements, as he believes most products are neither safe nor efficacious. “There is a \$30 billion industry of dietary supplements based on

no science, thus ... the vast majority of products in health food stores are not tested ... or safe. Many people think anything natural must be safe, but most harmful substances come from nature,” says Talalay. Dr. Talalay offered the field of cosmetics as an example. “We can generally agree that the products the cosmetics industry sells are both safe and efficacious. We hear of very few serious reactions to cosmetics.” He says that the reason cosmetics are safe and useful stems from the scientific development and testing of products, something that is lacking in the organic supplement field. “Generally researching the importance of plants is a good program if enacted with the right scientific controls and standards” In Talalay’s opinion, research of plants and other natural sources is important. “The vast majority of medicines are derived structures originally obtained from plants and natural sources, from steroids to penicillin ... various antibiotics were also derived from natural products.” In response to the proposed facility, Talalay believes that, “It is a good idea, but it depends on how it is done. There is a whole spectrum of ways [research] could be done.” Talalay fears the influence of health food merchants and other businesses. Success of the program depends on how research is conducted, “If done scientifically, it will add to the scientific standards of rules for efficacy.” Another program at Hopkins interested in herbal medicine research is the newly developed Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) at the Hopkins Medical Campus.

Among its organizational goals, the CAM aims to find herbal and natural remedies to alleviate pains associated with cancer and cancer therapy. The organization also hopes to “invigorate the intellectual atmosphere with CAM research, thus leading to a new age of integrative, comprehensive care,” according to the CAM website. “High rates of breast and prostate cancers, as well as high use of complementary and alternative medicines indicate that allopathic care is not sufficient either for prevention or treatment of these diseases. Thus, new alternative medicines and modalities must be studied in order to make advancements,” CAM officials say. As the center develops, researchers intend that the interventions studied will be applicable to the general cancer process. Other Hopkins researchers are interested in medicinal research, as well. Dr. Ted Poehler cited the work of Craig Townsend from the Chemistry Department, who researches areas of biosynthesis and chemistry of natural products, drug design, enzymology and molecular biology of secondary metabolism, and the clinical applications of fatty acid synthesis inhibition in the treatment of cancer, infectious diseases and obesity. Townsend was unavailable for comment. With regards to the proposed University of Maryland research facility, it seems Hopkins researchers have been focusing on herbal medicine long before this plan’s inception. Regardless, Talalay has “great respect” for the proposed program, and hopes that it will prove to be a scientific endeavour rather than one monopolized by businesses and health food merchants. The University of Maryland plan, which includes a medicinal products factory, think tank, and museum, hopes to spark further advancements by the Appalachian Center for Ethno-botanical Studies, started two years ago by the three universities. The center focuses its research on finding herbal remedies.

# College costs surpass rate of inflation

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1**  
ety of factors, the first of which is the rising costs of energy, which themselves surpass the rate of inflation and must be absorbed by the University budget. In addition, there’s the issue of labor. “Universities are very highly labor intensive,” says Provost Steven Knapp. “We don’t make gains from productivity, which has to do with replacing people with machines. ... Education ... is not a process that can be automated.” Other major costs that the school faces are those of computerization and library acquisition, particularly for journals. Knapp pointed out that the cost of subscriptions is rising, but Hopkins must maintain these resources in order to remain competitive. Yet one of the biggest causes of the increases in tuition is the rapidly increasing cost of healthcare for employees. At Hopkins, the costs of offering high-quality instruction don’t even come close to being covered by tuition. It is the revenue obtained through philanthropy, which allows Hopkins to maintain a competitive edge where instructional staff is concerned. Last but not least, unlike most universities, Hopkins doesn’t have a separate fee for athletics or a student union. “It’s all folded into tuition,” says Knapp, “and that should be taken into account.” While philanthropy can help to fund recent projects such as the O’Connor Recreation Center and the Mattin Center, the ongoing upkeep has to come from tuition, since donors don’t typically give for such purposes.

Perhaps the most pressing issue universities must address is how to provide financial aid to students that matches the rise of tuition in order to attract a diverse student body. According to the College Board, 62 percent of full-time undergraduate students received grants from the federal or state government, from their universities or private sources. Hopkins Director of Financial Aid Ellen Frishberg noted that only 35 to 40 percent of students here are receiving financial aid grants, sharing the \$32 million that was allotted this year. In addition, Frishberg’s office also oversees \$10 million in student loans, \$1 million in work study and \$4 million in private loans—that she knows of. There has been rising concern regarding the increase in the number of students taking out private loans, often at much high interest rates than are through the university. Of the problem, Frishberg said, “We shop in the marketplace to make sure we’re getting the best interest rates for students ... so that they’re not going out and getting hurt in the long run. ... Over 65 percent of our students go on to graduate school. We want to keep students’ indebtedness down because we know they’re going to have to borrow again.” Romeo expressed her concern that rising tuition will put her into debt. “It’s frustrating for students who do rely on themselves to pay for their college education. ... I’m definitely in a bind when tuition costs rise at such a high rate,” she

said. But she doesn’t necessarily attribute the increase in private loan-taking to the rising costs of tuition. “I’ve been seeing a lot of parents interested in having the student, or themselves, borrow their portion—the family’s portion—of the tuition,” says Frishberg. “I see a lot of co-signed loans to pay for what we think is the family’s ability to pay for the education. I think families are stretched, and so rather than taking on the debt personally, parents ask their children to co-sign the loan and take on that burden. ... We’re often not sure who exactly is paying it off, the parent or the student.” As always, it seems that the people who can afford it the least are borrowing the most. Frishberg points out that while low-income students can often obtain sufficient aid, the high-income students don’t have to worry about it and the middle-income families are truly struggling to find the funds. And while the number of students Frishberg saw turn down an opportunity at Hopkins because of cost used to be limited to “a handful,” she now acknowledges “a shift where families are looking for the best deal they can get, as opposed to the best fit for students, and that’s a reality.” How does this effect Hopkins as a whole? Frishberg insists that our applicant pool has the depth to sustain those losses and still maintain its standards. It’s the diversity of the population that suffers; ethnicity aside, the majority of students are going to come from an affluent background.

Says Knapp of the worth of a college education, “It’s a good bargain economically. ... The other things that are less tangible—learning the skills of critical thinking, lifelong friendships, things that are less tangible than the amount or money that you earn—are certainly part of what’s being provided. It’s harder to put a price tag on those.”

## ON-STREET PARKING NOTICE

Johns Hopkins has been informed that the communities surrounding the Homewood Campus will be obtaining new street parking restrictions, including additional Residential Parking Permit (RPP) areas, to deter nonresident parking and will initiate a more aggressive parking enforcement program in the very near term. This initiative will not target residents who are permitted to use on-street parking (those with RPPs, and/or residents who reside in properties that entitle them to on-street parking) or vehicles that are otherwise parked legally. The community is taking this action due to the shortage of on-street parking available to its residents.

The affected neighborhoods are Charles Village, Greenway, Abell, Remington, Wyman Park, Tuscany, Canterbury, and Oakenshaw.

If you park in the aforementioned areas, I encourage you to consider other alternatives – The Johns Hopkins University parking facilities, and/or mass transit. University lots are reasonably priced, with monthly prices starting at \$30 at the ELLERSLIE LOT. All the parking facilities are served by regular free shuttle service to and from all JHU campuses in Baltimore City and are monitored by security personnel.

Below are sources of information about JHU parking facilities, shuttle service, and the Mass Transit Administration (buses and light rail) and examples of parking violations and fines.

Should you have any questions regarding parking matters, please contact Greg Smith, JHU’s manager of transportation and parking, at either gregsmith@jhu.edu or 410-516-8371. If you have any questions or comments regarding community matters, please do not hesitate to contact me at sreiner1@jhu.edu or 443-287-9900.

Regards,

Salem Reiner  
Director  
Office of Community Affairs  
The Johns Hopkins University

- Information about parking at Johns Hopkins University locations can be found at [www.jhu.edu/parking](http://www.jhu.edu/parking) or by calling 410-516-PARK.
- Information about JHI shuttle service can be found at [www.jhu.edu/parking/shuttle](http://www.jhu.edu/parking/shuttle), or by calling 410-516-PARK.
- For mass transit (bus, light rail) information see [www.mta Maryland.com](http://www.mta Maryland.com) or call 410-539-5000 or 1-866-RIDE-MTA, Monday - Friday 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Examples of parking citations on city streets include the following penalties.
  - o Numerous violations each with a fine of \$27.
  - o Within 15' of a Fire Hydrant, No Stop/Transit Stop, Snow Emergency Route - \$52.
  - o Residential Permit Parking (RPP) - \$42.
  - o No Stop/Handicapped - \$202.
  - o Upon the issuance of a third parking ticket to the same vehicle that is 30 days past-due, the subject vehicle will be targeted by the city for towing, impoundment, and/or application of a “Denver Boot” immobilization device. Beyond the time required to retain one’s vehicle, the ensuing fines total hundreds of dollars, including \$225 to have the vehicle released.
  - o A vehicle that remains in the same location without being moved for 48 consecutive hours after being identified may be fined up to \$152 per citation.

## NEWS BRIEF

### HAWC, JHU-ACLU host speaker on detainee civil liberties controversy

The Johns Hopkins Anti-War Coalition (HAWC), in association with the Hopkins chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), sponsored a lecture Thursday, Oct. 20, by Barbara Olshansky, director of the Guantanamo Justice Initiative at the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR), entitled, “Are we losing our civil rights in the name of homeland security?” Olshansky, working out of the New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights, is a leading figure in the debate over whether or not detainees designated “enemy combatants” by the president should be afforded the full legal rights of American citizens. Olshansky noted that she and the CCR initially began their efforts as a response to Sept. 11, after which a large number of foreign nationals were allegedly detained and kept “in

limbo” under suspicion of terrorism charges based on what Olshansky referred to as “uncorroborated tips.” These events, Olshansky noted, eventually culminated in the landmark Supreme Court hearings *Rasul v. Bush* and *Habib v. Bush*. She explained that the cases challenged the U.S. government’s alleged practice of indefinitely detaining foreign nationals captured in connection with the war in Afghanistan without counsel or the right to trial. Ultimately, the Supreme Court ruled that the detainees should be afforded access to U.S. Courts and granted unadulterated due process of the law to challenge their detention. Olshansky went on to discuss the sustained relevance of her organization’s humanitarian work in the face of a frequently chang-

ing American democracy. She cautioned that there exist many areas of federal and international law that will inevitably be subject to domestic and international scrutiny, and that the CCR will play a critical role. She further detailed her more recent work with such impending court cases as *Doe vs. Bush*, in which the CCR has filed on behalf of detainees’ families in an attempt to obtain a definitive record of the names of the detainees held at Guantanamo Bay. Barbara Olshansky is the author of several books on the controversial subject of detainee civil rights, including *Detaining Democracy*, *America’s Disappeared: Secret Imprisonment*, and *Secret Trials and Executions: Military Tribunals and the Threat to Democracy*.

— Vishal Vaghela



NEWS

AROUND THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS

Civil rights activist Rosa Parks, 92, dies in Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — This city was gearing up to celebrate the 50th anniversary of what many view as the start of the modern civil rights movement. Those ceremonies must now go on without one of its greatest heroes.

Rosa Parks, whose Dec. 1, 1955 arrest for not giving up her seat to a white passenger sparked a bus boycott, died at her Detroit home Monday night of natural causes. She was 92.

"The only regret I have is that she didn't live to see the 50th celebration and to see how we are acknowledging her greatness," said Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright. "It's a sad, sad day for Montgomery and a sad day for the world." Bright was among the many admirers mourning Mrs. Park's death Monday. They cited her act of civil disobedience as triggering a 381-day bus boycott led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Rosa Parks was known as the queen mother of the movement. She sat down so that her people could stand up," Lowery said Monday night from his home in Atlanta.

Tuskegee Mayor Johnny Ford said he would order flags in the town where Mrs. Parks was born as Rosa Louise McCauley on Feb. 4, 1913, to be flown at half-staff from Tuesday until after her funeral.

He said a street that was named after Mrs. Parks about ten years ago intersects with Martin Luther King Blvd., the roads symbolically coming together like their namesakes did so many years ago.

Commemorating events are planned all throughout 2006 and the celebrations are going to be bigger than previous years because it marks a half-century, said Bright, who says he keeps a picture of himself and Mrs. Parks in his office.

—Desiree Hunter  
The Associated Press

Kosovo talks supported by U.N. Security Council

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council on Monday endorsed starting talks on Kosovo's future, clearing the way for tough negotiations on the status of an ethnically divided province run by the United Nations since NATO's 1999 air war against Yugoslavia.

Diplomats at the meeting acknowledged the tough task they face in overcoming the central disagreement between the Kosovo government and Serbia: Kosovo wants full independence; Serbia refuses to give it.

"I think it's quite clear that both sides come into this process with diametrically opposed positions from the outset," said Kai Eide, the U.N. envoy who recommended earlier this month that talks begin. "It's going to be a very hard process to bring them together."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan backed Eide's recommendation despite ethnic tensions and economic problems in Kosovo. NATO's war forced then-Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to end a crackdown on rebel ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, and U.N. officials have administered the province since.

Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica made clear the stance of Serbia and Montenegro — as the shrunken Yugoslav federation is now known — referring seven times to the importance of preserving its "sovereignty and territorial integrity."

"We find it inconceivable, as I am sure do the members of this august body, that solutions should be imposed against its will on any democracy, least of all solutions that threaten its internationally recognized borders," Kostunica told the council.

The view from Kosovo's predominantly Albanian population is equally strong.

—Nick Wadhams  
The Associated Press

Balt. mayor faces hurdles in gubernatorial race

BALTIMORE (AP) — When Mayor Martin O'Malley announced he was running for governor, the Democrat kicked off his campaign in a park overlooking the city's famed renovated harbor, a school band playing pep songs behind him as he talked up his experience in running Maryland's biggest city.

But as other big-city mayors can attest, a high-profile urban post can be a political liability as well as an asset.

"Most big-city mayors don't make it to statewide offices," said Marion Orr, an urban politics professor at Brown University. "When you look at a big city like Baltimore, you see crime, you see poverty, you see bad schools. When you begin to think about the predicament of cities, it's not an easy position to sell."

In Maryland, however, the governor's office has been filled by a former Baltimore mayor as recently as 1992. And in next-door Pennsylvania, Gov. Ed Rendell was elected in 2002 after serving as mayor of Philadelphia.

Most big-city mayors have several factors working against them. First, a decades-long population shift from the cities to the suburbs means cities wield less electoral power and are demographically different from most states as a whole. The campaign style needed to win office in, say, Chicago, may not sell to voters in rural Illinois.

O'Malley, who has been mayor since 1999, is bidding to win the Democratic nomination next year and unseat Republican Gov. Robert Ehrlich. He is trying to sell his accomplishments: less violent crime, more elementary school students getting proficient marks on standardized tests and a widely publicized development renaissance.

—Kristen Wyatt  
The Associated Press



MAHMOUD TAWIL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lebanese supporters of the country's slain former Prime Minister, Rafik Hariri, hold up a picture of him while shouting anti-Syrian slogans during a gathering Sunday. They welcomed the U.N. report on Hariri's assassination in Beirut, Lebanon, which was marked by a multi-lateral probe and recommended sanctions.

U.S., allies threaten sanctions against Syria

BY NICK WADHAMS  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States, France and Britain on Tuesday demanded that Syria detain government officials suspected of involvement in the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and ensure their cooperation with a U.N. probe or face possible sanctions.

The call was contained in a draft resolution that orders Syria to make the officials or individuals "fully and unconditionally available" to the U.N. investigating commission.

It states that Syria must allow the commission to interview Syrians that it considers relevant to the inquiry "outside Syria and/or outside the presence of any other Syrian official if the commission so requests."

If Syria does not fully cooperate with the investigation, the draft says the council intends to consider "further measures" to ensure compliance, including

sanctions.

The draft resolution also calls for anyone designated by the commission as suspected of involvement in Hariri's assassination to be subject to a travel ban and to have their assets frozen.

The proposed resolution would be under Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter, making it militarily enforceable.

The United States and France circulated the resolution hours after the chief U.N. investigator, Detlev Mehlis, briefed the council on his report, which implicated top Syrian and Lebanese security officials in the car bomb that killed Hariri and 20 other people.

Mehlis has said repeatedly that Syria had not fully cooperated and continuing the probe would be near impossible if Damascus didn't change course. He took that message directly to the council in his briefing, urging Syria to help "fill in the gaps" about who orchestrated the bombing, both by cooperating with a probe and studying the crime itself.

The draft resolution declares that "it

is unacceptable that anyone should escape accountability for an act of terrorism because of his own obstruction of the investigation or failure to cooperate in good faith."

It would endorse the Mehlis commission's conclusion "based on Syria's suspected involvement in this terrorist act and lack of adequate cooperation to the inquiry to date, that it is incumbent upon the Syrian authorities to clarify a considerable part of the questions which remain unresolved."

Under the draft's provisions, Syria would also be required to renounce terrorism and "commit itself definitively to cease all support for all forms of terrorist action and all assistance to terrorist groups and to demonstrate this undertaking through concrete actions."

U.S. Ambassador John Bolton said the Security Council would hold a meeting on Monday at ministerial level to consider the resolution. U.N. diplomats said they expect the ministers to adopt the resolution, which would give added

weight to the measure and increase pressure on Syria.

On Monday, hundreds of thousands of Syrians condemned the Mehlis report as part of a government-orchestrated campaign to counter the international pressure piling up against Syria.

The report added more pressure onto Syria, which for more than a year has been accused by Washington of also allowing insurgents to cross into Iraq and supporting Palestinian militant groups. Syria denies these charges.

Syria's ambassador to Britain on Tuesday slammed the U.N. report as biased and politically motivated. Mehlis should have considered other possible perpetrators, said Ambassador Sami Khiyami.

"I believe that Syria deserves to be defended," Khiyami said at the Chatham House foreign affairs think tank in London. "The report completely obscures the possibility of a third party exploiting the tense political environment in Lebanon to commit a hideous crime."

Bernanke replaces Greenspan as Fed chairman

BY JEANNINE AVERSA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Ben Bernanke, a plain-speaking former economics professor, was chosen Monday by President Bush to be the next chairman of the Federal Reserve, the most influential economic policy job in the world.

If approved by the Senate, Bernanke would succeed Alan Greenspan, who has spent 18 years at the helm and is expected to step down Jan. 31. Bush called Greenspan a "legend," and Bernanke promised to continue the chairman's policies.

"Ben has done path-breaking work in the field of monetary policy, taught advanced economics at some of our top universities and served with distinction on the Fed's Board of Governors," said Bush, who was flanked by Bernanke and Greenspan during a brief White House ceremony.

"He's earned a reputation for intellectual rigor and integrity. He commands deep respect in the global financial community."

Greenspan called Bush's choice "a distinguished appointment. Ben comes with superb academic credentials and important insights into the ways our economy functions."

It was the third time in as many years that Bush has turned to the 51-year-old Bernanke for a sensitive economic post. The president named him to the Fed board in 2002, then made him chairman of the president's Council of Economic Advisers earlier this year.

The nomination comes at a difficult time for Bush. His approval ratings are sagging, his choice of Harriet Miers for the Supreme Court is under attack, and his top political adviser — Karl Rove — is a central figure in the investigation of who leaked the name of an undercover CIA officer.

The initial reaction to Bernanke was

positive. Academics, Republican and Democratic lawmakers, economists and other experts said Bernanke, a leading thinker on monetary policy, has impeccable academic credentials for the Fed post.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average soared nearly 170 points, the best one-day showing in six months.

Bernanke (pronounced ber-NANK-ee) acknowledged that he has big shoes to fill, saying Greenspan "has set the standard for excellence in economic policy-

making."

If he is approved to a four-year term as Fed chairman, Bernanke said, his first priority would be "to maintain continuity" with the policies and strategies during the Greenspan era. He pledged to do all he could to ensure "the continued prosperity and stability of the American economy."

The Fed determines interest rate policies that affect any person or business that borrows money. Its decisions — along with utterances from the Fed chief

— can influence financial markets around the globe.

As the country's second-longest serving Fed chairman, the 79-year-old Greenspan has attained cult-like status and often is referred to as the second-most important person in Washington. On Greenspan's watch, the U.S. economy grew from March 1991 to March 2001, the longest continuous expansion in history. The two recessions during his tenure — in 1990-91 and in 2001 — were mild.

Iraqi parliament ratifies constitution

BY MARIAM FAM  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's election commission declared Tuesday that final results from the Oct. 15 referendum show the new constitution was ratified by a huge margin, paving the way for elections. Sunni Arab leaders raised doubts that it would be embraced by those at the heart of the insurgency.

The announcement was made as the conflict reached a grimmer milestone. The Pentagon announced that an Army sergeant died Saturday of wounds suffered in a blast Oct. 17 in Samarra — raising to 2,000 the number of American service members to die since the conflict began in 2003.

And Iraq's most feared terror group claimed responsibility for Monday's suicide attacks against hotels housing Western journalists and contractors in Baghdad, as well as suicide bombings Tuesday in northern Iraq.

Nearly 79 percent of the 9.8 million voters nationwide supported the constitution, the Independent Election Commission announced after a 10-day audit following allegations of fraud. Election

official Farid Ayar said the audit turned up no significant fraud, despite allegations by Sunni Arabs opposed to the charter.

Despite the strong "yes" vote nationwide, Sunni Arabs came close to scuttling the charter because of a provision in the law stating that if two-thirds of the voters in any three of the 18 provinces rejected the constitution it would be defeated.

Voters in two heavily Sunni Arab provinces overwhelmingly voted against the constitution — by 96 percent in Anbar and about 81 percent in Salahuddin, which includes Saddam Hussein's hometown.

Voters in Nineveh province, which includes Iraq's third-largest city, also voted down the charter but by about 55 percent — below the two-thirds threshold. In Diyala, a mixed province with a large Sunni Arab population, the constitution won by only about 51 percent.

The Bush administration hopes the constitution will help bring disaffected Sunni Arabs, the foundation of the insurgency, into the political process, enabling the United States and its coalition partners to begin bringing their troops home.

Approval of the constitution, followed by elections Dec. 15, would enable the

administration to maintain it had achieved its goal of bringing constitutional, democratic government to Iraq after decades of Saddam Hussein's despotic rule.

"It's a landmark day in the history of Iraq," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said. "We congratulate the Iraqi people. ... The political process is continuing to move forward in Iraq, and it is an encouraging sign to see more and more people participating in the process."

Carina Perelli, the U.N. elections chief, praised a "very good job" with the audit of results by election officials and said "Iraq should be proud of the commission." Both the European Union and NATO also welcomed the ratification.

The strong negative vote by Sunni Arabs, however, raised questions whether the charter would succeed in luring Sunnis away from the insurgency. Many Sunni Arabs fear the constitution will create virtually autonomous and oil-rich mini-states of Kurds in the north and Shiites in the south, leaving Sunnis isolated in poor central and western regions with a weak central government in Baghdad.



THE JOHNS HOPKINS  
NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

# No parking zone

Transportation at Hopkins has been caught in a gridlock. Recent changes to the security van escort service, an increase in bike thefts on campus and now the increased enforcement of parking restrictions have left students with fewer and fewer transportation options.

There is a need for more parking on campus, plain and simple. However, nowhere along the line has the University indicated that it is prepared to work to create more parking for students. At best, students can hope that the University will work to prevent the city of Baltimore from further restricting the few options students currently have — a hope recently dashed by a shamefully apologetic e-mail from Director of Community Affairs Salem Reiner this week.

Increasing enforcement of existing parking restrictions is not the problem. Rather, the problem is found in the creation of new residential parking permit designation (RPP) that directly affect the largest group of non-residents: students. These residential parking permit designation areas are essentially no parking zones for students, as many do not qualify for these permits.

In discussing the current shortage of parking spots, Charles Village Civic Association President Beth Bullamore was correct to stress that, “This is not a student versus residents problem; this is everybody’s problem.” Many students have also noted difficulties in finding parking in the surrounding neighborhoods. However, Hopkins’ neighbors petitioning for increased RPP designation only serve to benefit a handful of the players. If this truly is everyone’s problem, then neighborhood associations must work as mediators among all of the parties involved to find a solution that meets everyone’s needs. We must not forget that

students are neighbors as well.

It is no secret that the University carries a significant amount of weight when it comes to changes in the city, including those concerning transportation and parking. Just last weekend the administration was able to close down one side of University Parkway in order to provide valet parking spots for our largest donors while attending a dinner in the Recreation Center. If it can make such efforts to ensure that donors can park their cars near campus for one dinner, it should also work to ensure that the current shortage facing faculty, staff and students is eliminated — or at least not exacerbated. The University must work to find solutions other than further restricting parking in surrounding neighborhoods.

In his current role, Reiner must work to ensure that the University finds a solution to this problem that represents the needs of the Hopkins community (students, faculty and staff) first and the local residents second. Reiner’s recent e-mail to students, bringing to light the neighborhood’s complaints, made no indication of his willingness to work with all sides to agree on a compromise. Instead, it sent the message to students that the University had given up on this matter. For once it would be nice to see Reiner pushing for solutions that work for both students and residents unaffiliated with the University.

Local residents must keep in mind that Hopkins is not solely to blame for the lack of parking; many homes have seen an increase in car ownership and many families own two or more cars. Perhaps the neighborhood associations should look to further restrict the number of residential parking permits that any one residence can have before curtailing what limited parking options currently exist.

# U-bolts and bike thefts

Nothing can be more disheartening for a student than to walk out to his bike and find it gone, with nothing left but a severed lock. While it is noble for Hopkins Security to begin a new policy of replacing all cable locks on bikes with U-bolts in hopes of deterring the recent rash of bike thefts, the security department should also consider more hassle-free and long-term prevention techniques, like increasing patrolling near bike racks. U-bolting students’ bikes forces them to track down security officers to unlock bikes, creating inconveniences and disruptions of routine for both students and officers. It would be more efficient for the security department to supply U-locks at its office, which can be easily accessed by bike-riders, while increasing patrols around areas of greatest vulnerability to theft.

Of course, students are ultimately responsible for their own property. In order to prevent thefts, bike owners must take the necessary precautions. Bike owners should not hesitate to follow the security department’s helpful suggestions. These include registering individual bikes on security’s Web site, <http://www.jhu.edu/security>, and taking the time to lock both a bike’s frame and wheels to a bike rack. These precautions take only minutes to effectively protect students’ property. Increased

vigilance of theft in general must also become a priority for students if they want campus to be secure.

While bike theft may seem petty in comparison with serious security threats, the frequency of theft on campus must not be downplayed. Security should explore additional methods of theft prevention besides a series of online registrations and imposed U-bolt locks. Since Homewood campus is not a gated community, security should always keep in mind that a sense of insufficient attention to common crimes like theft can attract criminals to the campus. While it is important for the safety and sanity of everyone here that security is eager to tackle the big issues that have haunted this campus in the past few years, it is equally important that as many steps are taken as possible to prevent petty crimes from occurring, particularly given the general trend for theft to increase at this time of the season.

Thefts should be handled as swiftly as any major crime, and students should feel confident that security will respond to their situation quickly and efficiently. If the amount of time it takes for a bike to be stolen is roughly comparable to the time necessary to commit a more serious crime, then security’s response time is a test of their preparedness for any situation.

# Dude, you’re gettin’ a Dell

Hopkins’ plan to aid in the renovation of the Wyman Park Dell with a grant of \$10,000 will further the University’s goal of revitalizing the south end of campus. The Dell’s potential has long remained unrealized. By eliminating drainage problems, improving lighting and footpaths, and repairing walls, the project will help improve the aesthetics and safety of the park. Though the Dell is technically public property, the University has taken a lead in helping with the effort. This gesture should help along the University’s broad efforts this year toward mending relations with community groups and local residents.

With the construction of Decker Quad and a new visitors’ center already underway, the identity of the southern end of campus is rapidly changing. The University intends for the new buildings to act as a true gateway to campus — a defined entryway that Hopkins has always lacked. Because it abuts the south end of campus, Wyman Park Dell will help define this new entryway. It is important that Hopkins actively helps with the planning process so the Dell’s changes reflect the needs of both the community and Hopkins students.

Though the University’s direct contribution of time and money is generous, the staff members involved in the project, such as Director of Archi-

tecture and Planning Mark Demshak, should solicit advice from students on the renovation. If Hopkins is contributing money from its budget to help improve the Dell, it should also advocate the kinds of changes students would appreciate.

Students will likely appreciate an opportunity to contribute to the revitalization of an area that has been neglected for the fear one’s safety is compromised by venturing down the flight of stairs that lead into the Dell. Designers should consider a number of minor additions, such as setting up soccer goalposts so students can play pick-up games on the wide grassy floor of the Dell. Or the designers could create a Frisbee golf course; the game, popular at many other schools, involves throwing discs at target posts spread out over a large area. Perhaps a portion of Wyman Dell could be set aside for the construction of outdoor basketball courts, drawing in students who might not otherwise use the park.

The Dell is a beautiful resource that has long been overlooked by Hopkins students. Hopefully, Hopkins will represent the interest of its undergraduates and make the park the kind of place that caters to the needs of everyone who lives in the vicinity of campus — permanent and collegiate residents included.

## ANN RENEE ANGIULO



... IN LIGHT OF RECENT THEFTS, STUDENTS BULK UP THEIR BIKE SECURITY

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Intelligent design, science can co-exist

I am disappointed that the newspaper of a school that so values critical thinking and analysis treated an issue like intelligent design with such flippancy. To publish an op-ed series on intelligent design in which all three columns were written by the same, biased individual, Patrick Kennedy, seems unfair to readers on both sides of the issue.

Let me offer a different perspective on the science versus intelligent design debate: it doesn’t have to be a debate at all. While I believe wholeheartedly that God created the universe, I don’t automatically dismiss the scientific validity of evolution. To deny the possibility that evolution was created and employed by God in creation would be to deny His creative capacity.

Science and intelligent design are not mutually exclusive. When scientists who advocate intelligent de-

sign observe intricate scientific phenomena, they conclude that this universe is too complex to exist devoid of design. In this way, scientific discovery points to the existence of a designer.

On the other hand, intelligent design offers an answer to the questions that science has been unable to answer — questions of ultimate origin and meaning. The existence of a designer gives meaning to what

is scientifically observed. In this way, intelligent design and science complement and complete each other.

So the next time you ponder quantum mechanics or a physiological system, wonder if it, or the evolution that made it what it is, is too complex to exist by accident.

Kasey Kimball  
Sophomore

## LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu) for inclusion in that Thursday’s issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

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# OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

## Barnes & Noble feeds carbon-copy intellectualism

We have all come to know Johns Hopkins as a school that prides itself on unparalleled academic rigor. Graduate schools and employers look to our classes for prospective innovators and leaders. Year after year, *U.S. News & World Report* ranks our school among the top 15 universities in the country, and Hopkins has phenomenal name recognition in academia and the general public. Frankly, we'd better have some innovative ideas to offer the world by the time we graduate. For \$120,000, I would expect nothing less than an intellectually mind-boggling educational experience designed to equip me with everything I'll need to live up to such astronomical expectations.

So I wasn't thrilled when I learned that a Barnes & Noble is going to be the cornerstone of the new Charles Commons project that administrators hope will be the new morale-boosting center of student life.

Barnes & Noble is not just a bookstore. It's a business. Barnes & Noble has made a fortune by selling the most popular, well-marketed books, all of which are displayed in the store's choicest locations. As Hopkins

students flock to the new Commons, they will be pitched the same top-selling, glossy-covered books over and over again: books chosen not by Hopkins professors or students but by Barnes & Noble managers.

Such a phenomenon may seem subtle or irritating, and for the most part, that's all it is. Thousands of white suburban Americans will continue to take pleasure in the predictable warmth of the Barnes & Noble/Starbucks conglomerate. They will gleefully skim the pages of *The Da Vinci Code* and savor their chailattes with little detriment to America's intellectual integrity.

But Hopkins is not white suburbia. (Surprise!) It is a scholarly institution with an obligation to provide its students with ideas that are stimulating, creative, diverse, cutting-edge and provocative. The Hopkins Web site describes the founding of the University by its first president, Daniel Coit Gilman: "Building from scratch, rather than taking over an existing institution, freed Gilman to create something entirely new." Gilman himself said, "The best teachers are usually those who are

free, competent and willing to make original researches in the library and the laboratory." A school that takes such pride in developing innovative "knowledge for the world" should be ashamed to be buying into a pre-fabricated, market-driven corporation like Barnes & Noble as its primary source of literary material.

Let suburbia delight in its bland image of comfortable upper-middle class scholarship, but we have been earmarked as the thinkers and leaders of tomorrow! And "we" includes not just Hopkins students; it encompasses students at every other major American university.

But don't expect our colleges to bail us out of this literary void. Not unexpectedly, the Barnes & Noble "College Division" has a virtual monopoly on all university book sales, which means that every American college student is statistically inclined to read the very same books — books that are chosen based on their performance in sales, not classrooms.

Ideally, when the Charles Commons was

conceived, the school should have recognized the project's potential for student involvement on every level. The Charles Commons could have been a dynamic tool for students to develop marketing skills or practice business management. It could have been an independent venue designed to host fundraisers, late-night study sessions and student performances. It could have been a blank slate for students to redesign year after year as a reflection not only of the mood on campus but of the mood in the Charles Village community as well.

An independent bookstore and coffee shop would have provided all of the amenities the Barnes & Noble promises: more foot traffic (and thus increased neighborhood safety), a comfortable place for students and locals to mingle and drink coffee and a solution to the hell-hole that is the Gilman bookstore during textbook-buying season. Alas, as anyone who has ever tried to call a shuttle or eat in a dining hall can attest, Hopkins does not specialize in efficiency or service. Consequently we've got a corporate-sized piece of cookie-cutter suburbia on the way.

—Naomi Garland is a junior public health studies major from Seattle, Wash.

### NAOMI GARLAND GUEST COLUMN

## Leaning left: Why is there liberal bias in academia?

Why has modern high-profile academia moved so far to the left? By now, you've probably heard all the usual reasons: bias in hiring practices, incompatibility of conservative interests with selected curriculums, liberal attraction to public service and acceptance of lower wages. And yet, something is off in all these rationales. There has to be a better reason why, even at Hopkins, which has garnered a right-of-center reputation thanks to the neo-cons at SAIS, students vote along the same lines as the residents of Massachusetts.

Nothing could be better for academia at this point than a shock to the liberalism that is alternately a source of pride and a running joke among top-tier schools. It should be pretty clear to anyone who has followed my columns that I am no friend of contemporary conservatism. But there are few things more challenging (or more rewarding) than the kind of intellectual political debate that is all but dead at the nation's best universities. As Jered Ede, president of the Hopkins College Republicans, noted, "College is often the time we focus ourselves on what we will fight for the rest of our lives: our ideology." To him, teaching in a partial, "editorialized fashion, leads to a misinformed youth." Imagine that: a fiercely anti-Bush moderate like me seeing eye-to-eye with the head of the Hopkins GOP.

The problem, though, is that conservatives have yet to propose a compelling solution to academia's ideological one-sidedness or to even fully diagnose the problem. Calls for ideological diversity are admirable, but every solution shies away from the hard questions. Instead of looking for pragmatic new means of conversation, the conservative movement has brought out excuse after excuse, while refusing to realize that hard political realities have partially spurred its isolation.

My personal favorite is the idea that, as *New York Times* columnist John Tierney put it, faculty hiring practices amount to "cronyism" and that Republican professors are victims of a liberal group mentality. Fine, but then where are the lawsuits? If there is an explicit bias against hiring conservative faculty members, surely it is no less tangible than the equally ignoble practice of cutting qualified applicants based on race or gender.

Also, even if this trend were valid, why would politics supersede competence in humanities or science departments? I con-



MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

tacted Provost Stephen Knapp about this matter. Unable to recall a single instance in which political affiliations had affected the hiring process, Knapp stated that "to ask a job candidate about his or her political affiliation would be highly inappropriate and unprofessional." Even keeping tabs on party alignments or voting statistics would be seen as "an invasion of privacy and a potential threat to academic freedom."

So if it isn't hiring bias, then what is it? Wage arguments assume that conservatives would sacrifice intellectual achievement for profit — a convenient ideological simplification that has been contradicted a million times over. Perhaps a more irritating cliché, which I have often heard, is that liberalism is a result of better education. This theory falls apart when you consider that key Democratic constituencies, such as Hispanics and African Americans, have regrettably gone through worse school systems and are consequently outstripped on standardized tests by their

white counterparts.

With university liberalism in full swing, it might be tempting for conservatives to look for an escape route. There has been some thought of late that think tanks like the Heritage Foundation and the Cato Institute are an academia substitute — same rigor, same precision, but a friendlier bias.

Nice idea, except that such organizations, whatever their biases, are spawning pools for the supine groupthink that should be reviled on top campuses. And if you still think that

conservative think tanks are intellectual powerhouses, remember that all the ideas they have recently marketed — Middle East democratization on the cheap, tax cuts that only created deficits, bureaucracy-ridden Social Security privatization — have either backfired or died at birth, despite a favorable political environment.

After watching a Republican Congress cut the National Science Foundation budget for the first time in over a decade, and after witnessing massive, Republican-era

decreases in the National Endowment for the Arts, academia's preference for liberal professors should not really surprise anyone. But these issues, along with Republican opposition to stem cell research and attacks on civil liberties, are only recent phenomena and are insufficient to describe the entrenchment of left-leaning professionals. For all the upheavals that have driven America's political hemispheres farther apart, what academia needs is a challenge to liberal assumptions that will electrify thought on both sides of the aisle.

So why are conservatives excluded from academia? I still have a few more misconceptions to clear in my next column, but here, as with most aspects of our current political dystopia, the real explanation lies in the stereotypes that are staples of American mass media. Even in the smartest enclaves on earth, students and professors are playing into the 21st century's dumbest expectations, turning academic debate into the latest casualty in the culture wars.

—Patrick Kennedy is a sophomore physics and writing seminars major from Watchung, N.J.

### PATRICK KENNEDY OPPOSITION, INC.

## Hopkins Web portal could change how students surf

One proposal for enriching Hopkins that continues to attract scant attention is the creation of a student Web portal. Though the idea may sound bland, it's actually inspiring. The creators want to make an information hub, or entry point, for access to all Hopkins-related Internet resources. This means students can access everything from the registrar's login to the library search to a schedule of what's happening on-campus with a single Web site and with minimal effort. The creators may also add a log-in feature, where, like Google's log-in feature, you can customize the information delivered to you.

The portal is a small idea that can go a long way. First, and most importantly, it may help ease the feeling of disconnectedness within the Hopkins community. This is especially true for graduate students and alumni. Most alumni unplug from Hopkins after graduation. A site littered with Hopkins news and information might close the in-

formation gap that keeps many alumni out of the loop. As it concerns graduate students, the portal will connect the existing Graduate Representative Organization (GRO) portal with the larger campus information network, thereby integrating graduate-specific information with the overall community.

Undergraduates will benefit the most. If the creators do their job right, they will fashion content emulating undergraduate favorites like The Daily Jolt. This means including relevant information like restaurant reviews and campus headlines — and, if not on the front page, then somewhere close.

Uniting disparate information sources will be another positive consequence of a portal. As it exists now, Hopkins' Website hosts about ten different portals for different things. StuCo has its own, GRO has their own, the Center for Social Concern has its own, the Office of Greek Life has its

own. A full-blown Web portal will connect all these portals and give them a single, fresh face.

With new dorms being built and the administration constantly talking about building campus community, it makes sense to round out the edges with a community information hub. It also makes sense to keep students informed. This is especially true now, with shake ups being made in the security van schedule and alcohol policy. Making this information easily accessible online will give students and administration fewer headaches.

A portal might even help with new-student recruitment. Most students do much of their college search online in order to soak up as much information about a potential school as possible. Adding a portal only increases the ease with which prospective students can tap into

### MIKE HUERTA WHAT IT'S WORTH

the Hopkins community and see what we can offer.

It is one thing to create a portal and another to make a good one. The portal's creators need to go to great lengths to figure out relevant information and create it right. Because no one really cares about the portal right now, the site designers will need to pull students' teeth in order to figure out what to offer. Last week the designers held a pizza info session to get student feedback on the portal. This type of openness should continue aggressively if the portal is to succeed.

The portal's designers must work to ensure that the portal doesn't become yet another irrelevant initiative. If the portal is done in the spirit of detached decision-making — the same spirit which bred the Levering redesign and Fall Festival — then it will become a symbol of irrelevance and apathy. Let's hope it is done right so as to avoid more of the same.

—Mike Huerta is an applied math and statistics and political science major from Ft. Bragg, N.C.

## McCain a solid choice for 2008

Though I have always respected John McCain, he deserved to lose to Bush in 2000. While conservatives will tell you McCain lost because he disrespected the religious right and liberals will tell you he lost because of the Bush attack machine, the truth is that he was simply a poor candidate for president.

Sure, Americans appreciated his straight talk, military competency and many of his policy positions. But while then-Governor Bush was discussing education reform and tax relief, Senator McCain was talking about campaign finance reform. Bush's ideas greatly affected American lives while McCain's barely crossed the minds of most individuals. A presidential candidate must address the important issues of the day. McCain was trying out for the major league by tossing softballs, and it is no surprise the voters rejected him.

While the wrong choice in 2000, I believe McCain is the right choice, and in fact the only choice, in 2008. When Bush was nominated, he was the only Republican who could unite the party without receiving the stigma

### MARC GOLDWEIN TO THE POINT

attached to the "mean" Gingrichesque Republicans of the 1990s. Bush simultaneously attracted the religious right, business right and pro-military right — and even many independents — with his message of "compassionate conservatism."

In 2008, there will be no consensus candidate. Recently exposed and enhanced divisions in the Republican Party will likely be long-lasting, and it is doubtful that a Republican candidate can make these factions equally happy, as Bush did in 2000. There is one person, however, who cannot unite these constituencies: Hillary Clinton.

This is where McCain comes in. Republicans, seeing this election as a must-win, will forgive McCain for his past in the hopes that he can defeat Senator Clinton in the general election.

Though McCain is known as a maverick and has enormous cross-party appeal, he does not have major ideological differences with Republican voters. Contrary to conventional wisdom, McCain is not a moderate on most issues. In many ways, in fact, he is more conservative than the current president. While Bush believes in granting more power to the federal government, McCain believes in taking some away. While Bush has let spending increase to record levels, McCain has repudiated excessive spending whenever possible. While Bush supported expanding Medicare, subsidizing hybrid cars and instituting steel tariffs, McCain opposed all three. And, despite his depiction in the media, McCain is pro-life, a strong supporter of the Iraq war and a key advocate of reforming Social Security through personal accounts.

Though he wasn't ready in 2000, McCain has stepped up to the plate by addressing the issues that affect American citizens' lives. In the wake of Katrina, Americans (and Republicans especially) have become concerned about the deficit and the price of oil. These have long been two of McCain's key issues in the Senate.

At the same time, McCain's environmental advocacy will also come in handy. As commentator Dick Morris recently wrote, a new alliance is being formed between consumers and businesses concerned about oil prices, environmentalists concerned about air quality and national security advocates concerned about Saudi Arabia. Suddenly, McCain's support of fuel-efficiency regulations and alternative-energy incentives is looking pretty good to this alliance.

The public will also be looking for someone to deal with Iraq, the tax structure and the deficit. McCain has plans for all three. And most importantly, voters will be looking for someone to break the gridlock in Washington and get back to governance. Much of the next three years will likely consist of constant battles between President Bush and Congress. While McCain is not a moderate, his ability to reach out to (and even persuade) Democrats presents a real opportunity to get things done in this country.

With President Bush's approval rating at an all-time low, most polls indicate that McCain is one of the few Republicans who can win the presidency in 2008. He has clearly made mistakes in the past, but, unlike most politicians, he has learned from them. Just because he was the wrong candidate before doesn't mean he's the wrong candidate now. Republicans need to give him a second chance.

—Marc Goldwein is a junior political science and economics major from Merion, Pa.



# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Campus blogging system created

Two undergraduates introduce Web site for communication between students, faculty

BY SANDYA NAIR  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Two senior students at Johns Hopkins University, Asheesh Laroia and Christopher Chan, noticed a lack of communication among people at Johns Hopkins University and decided to do something about it. In order to facilitate greater exchange among members of the Hopkins community, Laroia and Chan created a site called Hopkins Weblogs (<http://www.blogs.jhu.edu>). Blogs (or Web logs) are sites on the Web that users can personalize and update with thoughts and ideas as an online journal that may be accessed by the public. The Hopkins Web logs site features social software of the type used to create popular websites like Facebook and LiveJournal to allow Hopkins users to create and update their own personal Web logs.

According to Laroia, the idea for Hopkins Weblogs was inspired by a blog entry by David Sifry, a Hopkins alumnus and the founder and CEO of Technorati (a popular blog search engine). In his January 2003 entry, Sifry writes, "I've been back at Johns Hopkins, my alma mater. ... I've got a suggestion: Give every faculty member, graduate student, undergraduate, and employee at the university a blog. ... Some would talk about their current research, some would write about daily life, some would post poetry and writings, who knows. The conversation would be phenomenal. ... It would open a window to the entire world of the interests, knowledge, and thoughts of 100 of the world's finest professors, students and administrators in higher education today."

Laroia says that Sifry's idea motivated him and Christopher Chan to create the blog site. Sifry's concept takes blogging beyond the idea conveyed by the Oxford English Dictionary's definition of blogs as, "Web logs run by twenty-something Americans with at least an unhealthy interest in computers." Although Laroia indicates that such blogs may be created through the JHU blog site, like Sifry, he has a much broader vision for the types of blogs that can



Hopkins seniors Christopher Chan and Asheesh Laroia demonstrate the use of their new blogging Web site.

be created through Hopkins Weblogs.

"I'd really like to see student groups creating and regularly updating their own blogs," says Laroia. According to him, beyond the Student Activities Fair, it is hard to track the activities of the multitude of on-campus student organizations without actually becoming a member. The Student Council already runs its own blog site, not through Hopkins Weblogs, and Laroia sees this as an example for other groups to follow.

Students who are studying or working abroad can also use Hopkins Weblogs to share their experiences with the Hopkins community. Laroia says that one user, Emily Kumpel, a mechanical engineering major, is using a Hopkins Web log to share her experiences doing community service work in Africa.

Another potential application, which was suggested by Sifry and is one that Laroia hopes will expand, is the creation of Web logs by faculty members. Such Web logs will not only help students find faculty members whose research they find interesting, they would also help faculty post their thoughts and research progress so that they can be accessed

by professors at other universities, thus providing another medium for inter-university exchange. Laroia says, "What's great about this system is that it is so easy to update a Web log. You just type your idea and hit submit. Also, unlike e-mail or phone conversations, blog entries are not transient and they can be easily accessed by the public at later dates."

Laroia and Chan have another Web site to expand the realm of communication at Hopkins, JHUWiki ([wiki.jhu.edu](http://wiki.jhu.edu)). JHUWiki uses technology similar to Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia, where users can create and alter encyclopedia entries, to provide useful information to the Hopkins community.

Laroia was inspired to create JHUWiki by a Daily Jolt post where a user was asking for the nearest place to cut his hair. "I thought, why not put this information online, where people can access and update it? We have the compendium in print form, but what I'd really like to see is that kind of information online where users can modify it and it can be easily accessed." As of now, there are a variety of guides available through JHUWiki, addressing is-

such as accessing JHU resources off campus, ways to buy cheap textbooks, options for off-campus dining and eyebrow waxing.

By creating the Hopkins Weblogs and JHUWiki, Asheesh Laroia and Christopher Chan hope to ameliorate the lack of communication within the Hopkins community. "I feel that we have very poor communication within the University right now, probably due to the lack of social meeting places and since the university has expanded dramatically within the past few years," says Laroia.

In the words of David Sifry, "[Blogs] make it easy for people to talk, easy to post. Imagine the connections that would happen just by doing a Google search — researchers across the world that could find each other. ... It would light fires of interest, collaboration, and involvement," Sifry said. "The key thing is to create incentives for people to communicate."

## Endangered Species Act sparks debate

The House of Representatives voted last month to amend the 1973 Endangered Species Act (ESA). The "Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act (TESRA)" (H.R. 3824) included several key provisions that would ease the restrictions imposed by the ESA on land developers, farmers and homeowners.

The House bill passed on Sept. 30 by a vote of 229-193. The bill was introduced by Representative Richard Pombo (R-Cal.). Representative Pombo is known for his submission of a bill to lease 15 national parks for oil and coal development to offset the federal budget deficit.

The new legislation revoked restrictions on the use of pesticides over areas where species designated "endangered" were residing. The original act prohibited the spraying of pesticides if they were found to be potentially deadly to the threatened species.

TESRA aims to expedite development decisions by limiting the amount of time that a developer could be challenged to six months. The decision would be taken out of the hands of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service and placed at the discretion of the Interior Secretary.

The Interior Secretary would be empowered to make a decision on whether or not the area under consideration for development held any "special value" to the endangered species, regardless of the source of data.

This provision amends the previous wording that required a decision be based on the "best available scientific data."

The ESA has historically protected endangered species by designating

"critical habitats." These habitats were considered off-limits to developers and warranted special protections if located near an already developed area.

The TESRA would repeal the designation of "critical habitats" and refer to the former habitats as "areas of special value." Any species recovery plans for these "areas" would be optional and noncommittal.

The bill will require the government to provide homeowners and land developers the equivalent market value of the land if it chooses to impede development. Failure to reimburse the owners would eliminate all restrictions to development or hunting of endangered species.

Supporters of TESRA have applauded its capacity to provide further land development opportunities.

Critics of TESRA, dubbing it the "Extinction Bill," argue that the bill

will destroy 30 years of progress in endangered species recovery, including the bald eagle, which was expected to be de-listed shortly. The bald eagle was originally listed after it suffered severe reproductive defects and poisoning from the pesticide DDT.

Removal of "critical habitat" effectively disables the ESA, reports a former Republican congressman who co-wrote the original act.

The ESA was enacted in 1973 and provides protection to 1,860 rare animal and plant species. Over the last 32 years, 31 species have been de-listed after recovering or improving significantly. Nine have gone extinct.

TESRA is now awaiting debate and a vote in the Senate. House amendments to the bill were narrowly defeated before it passed in the House.

### PETER MCPHEE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA

## Scientists explore basis of swearing

BY STEPHEN BERGER  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Whether it is a joke among friends or an emotionally charged insult, people commonly utter curses in social situations. Every culture has its own group of taboo words that arise from biology and religion. It is clearly a part of human nature to set aside certain words as forbidden, but why is it also natural for humans to use them?

Scientific research is opening new frontiers in understanding this common but challenging human behavior. People with a unique symptom of Tourette's syndrome known as coprolalia, or the uncontrollable urge to utter curses and other socially inappropriate comments, are proving to be a valuable resource in this area of study.

Coprolalia afflicts five to 30 percent of people with Tourette's. It can be a deeply troubling and disruptive condition. An episode of coprolalia usually begins with a trigger. A word or two in a conversation could instigate a string of expletives. Often, however, coprolalia arises spontaneously and with no apparent cause.

Recent studies have used brain imaging to determine the anatomical basis of cursing in the brain. Tourette's patients with coprolalia are observed with either positron emission tomography (PET) or functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), two techniques used by neuroscientists to examine the brain at work. Patterns of brain activation are correlated with the patient's verbal tics.

Functional imaging suggests that the primitive and advanced parts of our brains fight to override each other when we curse. Deep-brain structures, such as the thalamus and basal ganglia, are activated simultaneously with the more evolutionarily recent prefrontal cortex and language cortex.

The basal ganglia and thalamus are parts of the limbic system, a group of brain structures located

deep below the cerebral cortex. The limbic system is associated with a variety of basic behaviors such as aggression and impulse, both of which are associated with cursing.

In contrast with the instinctive behaviors arising from the basal ganglia, the prefrontal cortex is responsible for what psychologists call executive functions, which include planning and inhibition of our impulses. In episodes of coprolalia, the prefrontal cortex attempts to override a behavior known to be socially inappropriate.

There are a variety of theories

Outbursts of cursing seem to be a fairly primitive behavior, hard-wired into our brains in the early days of the human species.

explaining why verbal tics in Tourette's syndrome frequently involve outbursts of cursing.

Scientists believe curse words are selected because of their short, sudden sounds. This theory is supported by the observation that curses in most languages have a similar phonetic pattern of one or two abrupt syllables.

Other scientists argue that curse words are chosen specifically, albeit unconsciously, for their offensive meaning. Even though coprolalia arises rapidly and may be difficult to control, individuals will often automatically tailor their curses for the specific situation.

A recent case report supports the theory that the words chosen in coprolalia are important for their meaning, not their phonetic structure. Phy-

sicians reported a deaf man with Tourette's who used sign language to spell out obscenities during fits of coprolalia. Since the man had been deaf since birth, he had no concept of the sound patterns of words. The scientists concluded that meanings motivated his outbursts.

Cases of coprolalia associated with Tourette's may be rare, but they can teach scientists a great deal about the neurological basis of cursing. Outbursts of cursing seem to be a fairly primitive behavior, hard-wired into our brains in the early days of the human species. There is some evidence that chimpanzees and other primates engage in similar behavior.

The reasons for this behavior are complex. Cursing is often an outlet for anger or frustration; many people report feeling better after cursing. It is also a means of gaining acceptance into a group; people tend to curse more frequently within a small group of friends, perhaps indicating their comfort level with the people around them.

At the same time, the higher portions of our brains try to override cursing. People recognize that curse words are taboo and often socially inappropriate, even among friends. As a result, there is a certain allure to cursing that adds to its unique treatment in language and culture.

Interestingly, there are a variety of medical and surgical treatments that can alleviate coprolalia, at least partially. Surgically disabling nuclei in the thalamus and two related structures, the globus pallidus and the cingulate cortex, can lessen the severity and frequency of outbursts. Electrically manipulating the thalamus through deep brain stimulation may also be possible.

These findings raise interesting questions about the basis of cursing. How do certain words become taboo? What is the social benefit of maintaining such a group of words? How do people learn what these words are and internalize them to such a great idea? Further research will undoubtedly focus on these questions.

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# YOUR NEWS-LETTER

## STUDENT GROUPS SURVIVE RED TAPE

Setting up a new organization is actually not difficult (if you know the rules to the game)

BY JULIANA KERREST  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Most students at Hopkins assume that forming a student group is a long and difficult process that involves much bureaucracy and paperwork. Hopkins has 252 registered student groups, however, so it must not be that complicated. It turns out that it isn't; just follow the steps outlined in the infobox on the left and you'll find yourself with a club in no time.

### KEY PLAYERS

The main administrative players involved in student groups include the Office for the Dean of Student Life, the Office of Student Involvement (OSI), the Student Activities Commission (SAC), and the Center for Social Concern (CSC).

The role of groups on campus is to provide Hopkins students with activities and opportunities that fall outside their academic fields of study. "It is a vital component of student life," says Susan Boswell, Dean of Student Life. "Involvement in some kind of area outside of the classroom is essential for success, both in life and in academics."

Depending on what kind of a group the student organization is, it will either have to register with CSC if it is a service organization or SAC if it is a cultural, performing arts, political action, publication, recreation and hobbies, religious, special interest or sports group.

The CSC is committed to volunteering and has great concern for the community, which is why it has

groups like Habitat for Humanity, Teach Baltimore and Student Global AIDS Campaign under its auspices.

### ORIGINAL IDEAS

Sophomore Mike Liu recently started his own student organization, ASPECTS, which stands for Autistic Spectrum Public Education for Comprehension, Tolerance and Support. Currently he is in the process of registering with the Center for Social Concern (CSC) since the club is planning on doing much community service and advocacy.

"Once we get approval from CSC," he says, "we will apply to register with OSI," a step that needs to be taken by all aspiring student organizations.

When asked if he has run into any problems, Liu admits that "there has been a lot of bureaucracy, and having to sell the idea to people who will be amenable to it is difficult. However, CSC has helped me along with it all," he continues.

"As long as you have the right idea, you should be okay to form a group on campus," he responds, when asked how difficult it is to form a group on campus.

The SAC, which has 116 registered groups, is considered a committee under the Student Council and plays two main roles in student organizations. First, it is in charge of allocating funds to them, whether on a budgetary yearly basis or a case-by-case one. Second, it is the first step in approving new ones.

When asked what is needed to

form a student group, senior Alice Li, Chairperson of SAC and Treasurer of the Student Council, advises the following: "Come up with a great original idea. That's all you need. And then get people who love it too and come to us."

### FUNDING

Each year the SAC is given around \$100,000 in funds to allocate to student groups as it sees fit. However, because there is often money left over at the end of the year and there is also the money that clubs are given but don't end up using, this year the SAC has almost \$300,000 in funds.

Li comments, "We're begging for people to come to us and ask us for money... we want the campus to be filled with events and activities." She admits that proposals need to be filed and there are technicalities, but she maintains that the SAC works with groups to get them the funding they need, even if the requests are last minute. "That's what we're here for: to help you guys." Li herself is an active member of three other groups on campus.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Another common misconception concerns the responsibilities that are then required by the SAC. There are really only two things that need to be done in order for the group not to be "frozen." One of these is to have one to two active members of your group attend the General Assemblies that take place once a month. These meetings are used for elections and delivering up-to-date information that needs to be known by student groups. The second requirement is that one financial workshop needs to be attended every year by the financial officer(s).

The Homewood campus is very varied in its organizations and groups, providing a diverse palette of choices when it comes to participation and activities. The school seems committed to helping students continue to widen the range of events and opportunities that are offered, and by following the steps outlined students can now find out for themselves what it is like to form a student group.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

The SAC Fair allows clubs to introduce themselves to new freshmen.

## How to Start Your Own Club

1. Have your idea for your group finalized. Check the list of registered groups to make sure there is not already a similar one that exists ([http://webhost5.nts.jhu.edu/~osi/view\\_groups.php](http://webhost5.nts.jhu.edu/~osi/view_groups.php)).
2. Read the Office of Student Involvement's (OSI) guidelines at <http://web.jhu.edu/studentprograms/involvement/organizations.html>.
3. Register with them by going to <http://web.jhu.edu/studentprograms/involvement/organizations.html>. Registration can be done online anytime before Sept. 15, or on the first and 15th of each month.
4. Decide whether your group falls under CSC's jurisdiction (service groups) or that of the SAC (cultural, performing arts, political action, publication, recreation and hobbies, religious, special interest, or sports groups).
5. If your group is a service group, fill out a "New Group Registration Proposal" at <http://csc.jhu.edu> under "Resources" or go to the CSC Office.
6. Only register with SAC if you plan on asking for funding from the University. Contact the liaison who is responsible for the category that your group falls under and contact him/her about your proposal.
7. Prepare an abstract for your group. Submit it to SAC for its consideration. If you're given the green light, your abstract will then be passed on to the Student Council Authorization Committee.
8. If you are approved, you will have a year to write your group's constitution. During that year, funding will not be made available to you.

## your say

Do you have Hopkins pride?

"I think I definitely have Hopkins spirit. I made a sandcastle that said 'I love Johns Hopkins' to be accepted here."



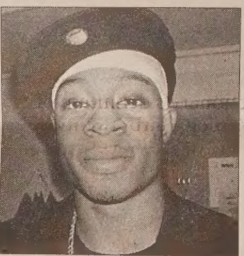
Samantha Schneider  
Freshman, psychology

"I guess I'm very proud of the Hopkins mediocrity — just that if I went to a state school I would be getting As."



Megan McClellan  
Sophomore, undeclared

"Not really — just there's nothing to do on Fridays except study in the library. Frat parties get more disappointing every year."



Osezua Olear  
Sophomore, biomaterials engineering

"I do have Hopkins pride because we are part of a world recognized institution with great athletics program. Lacrosse is No. 1. What's not exciting about that?"



Megan Goldman-Petri  
Junior, history of art & classics

— compiled by Natalie Baer

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### HOBOTRAVELER

<http://www.hobotraveler.com/blogger.html>

Andy, the self-described hobo-traveler hero of this engaging travel journal, has spent eight years traversing through over 50 countries. Unfortunately, his unedited writing is barely comprehensible at times, but the engaging topics are more redeeming. It is worth reading through the FAQs about the site and the history of Andy's travels. Though his quirky entries may take you to many destinations, don't expect to read vivid descriptions of the Presidential Suite at the Singapore Four Seasons Hotel — Andy travels on a shoestring.

### WACKYFUN

<http://www.wackyfun.net>

True to its name, wackyfun.net serves up tales of diversion and wackiness (and in some instances, a dangerous mix of both) from an intrepid corps of contributors. Recent points of discussion have included a delectable recipe for carcinogenic salmon, chronicles of adventurous road trips and the quest for a restaurant that can unseat Anna's Taqueria as home to the tastiest burritos this side of the border (yes,



they've even compared Anna's against Chipotle — see the entry dated June 4, 2005). Other highlights include wackypictures and an eclectic rotation of web polls.

### LUXIST

<http://www.luxist.com>

Luxist will cater to the insatiable avarice of your covetous soul! It makes it clear from the get-go that it is a blog dedicated to "obsessively covering luxury products." Scroll through the entries on the main page and this claim is easily vali-

dated. You'll find enough extravagance here to drain your wallet 60 million times over, in categories ranging from spirits and spas, to jewelry and estates. Be sure to check out the weekly posting of Luxist's "Objects of Desire," wherein the best items from the past seven days are compiled into one formidable list.

### BOING BOING

<http://www.boingboing.net>

Boing Boing serves up the perfect antidote to a long night of studying. Described as "A Directory of Wonderful Things," this blog keeps you up to date on all of the senselessly entertaining and addictive aspects of the Web, whether it's a marvelous Flash animation of "All Your Base Are Belong To Us" sung in tune to "Bohemian Rhapsody" or a place to purchase suicide figurine bathtub drain plugs. Where would you be without Boing Boing? Reading another thrilling chapter in your orgo textbook, probably.

— compiled by Shawn Fu

## your tracks

Halloween is coming up fast, so whether you're hosting a pumpkin-carving party, going to the bars at Fells, or still trick-or-treating, these are the songs to do it by:

1. Thriller — Michael Jackson
2. The Monster Mash — Bobby Boris Pickett
3. Werewolves of London — Warren Zevon
4. I Want Candy — Bow Wow Wow
5. Sympathy for the Devil — The Rolling Stones
6. Dracula's Wedding — Andre 3000
7. Frankenstein — The Edgar Winter Group
8. Addam's Family Theme Song —
9. Ghostbusters Theme Song — Ray Parker Jr.
10. Hollow Bones — WuTang Clan
11. I Put a Spell on You Screamin' — Jay Hawkins
12. Don't Fear the Reaper — Blue Oyster Cult
13. Bad Moon Rising — CCR
14. Teenage Witch — The Eels
15. Wolfman's — Brother Phish

— compiled by Melissa Feldsher



# Weather has f. hockey lukewarm

BY DAVID NGUYEN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In the spirit of the newly arrived blustery October weather, the Johns Hopkins field hockey team has cooled off as well.

The Blue Jays split a pair of games this past week, suffering a 2-0 loss to Washington College and later rolling past a weak Bryn Mawr College for a 4-0 victory. The loss to Washington College ended the team's bid to extend its winning streak to six straight games against six straight Centennial opponents, but its victory over momentum-depleted Bryn Mawr begins a new streak as the Blue Jays head towards the Centennial Conference Tournament.

Despite outplaying Washington College in nearly all facets of the game on Wednesday night, the Blue Jays were edged by the Shorewomen in the one category that mattered. Washington College played effi-

ciently, scoring two goals on only six shots.

The Jays had not suddenly become complacent after their recent success — demonstrated by their 14-6 shot advantage. Instead, Washington College sophomore goalkeeper Erin O'Brien was dominant, collecting eight saves to compensate for the Jays' notable shot advantage.

"They have a fantastic goalie and she made some incredible saves. We pretty much gave her all that we had. We used every corner play that we have and their corner defense was great," coach Megan Callahan explained. The Jays had 20 more penalty corners but were unable to take advantage of them. The Jays also were playing without freshman forward and points force Adair Landy, who was injured. The loss was the first for Jays at home this season, bringing their home record to a still-admirable 5-1.

A rain-soaked Saturday postponed the Jays' match with Bryn Mawr, but the bad weather could only delay the inevitable for so long. In the previous 12 matches with the Owls, the Jays have posted an 11-0-1 record, dominating the series. The Blue Jays squad just last year handed Bryn Mawr a 10-0 loss. Bryn Mawr, entering the match, had been winless in the conference and had won only one game in their past 12. And with the Jays arriving at Bryn Mawr having won five of their last six games, this game had the makings of a classic blow-out.

A sunny Sunday afternoon proved the weather had turned a corner, and the Blue Jays looked to do the same following their loss against Washington College.

The Jays peppered Bryn Mawr senior goalie Nicole Huynh all day on the way to their 4-0 victory, prolonging Bryn Mawr's decade of frustration. Despite applying consider-

able pressure on the Owls defense throughout the first half, the Jays were unable to find the back of the net. The Blue Jays finally broke through when junior midfielder Amy Soergel netted a goal off a penalty corner with less than two minutes to play in the first half.

Freshman midfielder Leah Horton opened up the game for the Jays with her fifth goal of the year. Amid chaos in front of the net, Horton whacked in the second goal of the game to make it 2-0 Jays. Almost 60 minutes into the game, junior forward Jamie Zubrow, the Blue Jays' Centennial Conference Player of the Week recipient this season, added her fourth goal of the season to stretch the lead to 3-0.

Freshman forward Emily Miller scored the first goal of her Hopkins career when she connected off her own rebound with less than a minute to play, finishing off the scoring for the Jays' 4-0 victory. The Blue Jays built a 15-0 shot advantage in the second half, a testament to their stingy defense and offensive firepower.

The Blue Jays have two more games left in the regular season, both against Centennial Conference teams. McDaniel, whom the Jays are scheduled to play on Wednesday afternoon in Westminster, Md., sports a 4-3 record in the conference and is right behind the Jays in the conference standings.

Ursinus, currently ranked No. 2 in the nation, is slotted for 5 p.m. Saturday at Homewood Field, the regular season finale for the Blue Jays. A national powerhouse, Ursinus will be one of the toughest opponents for the Jays this season. Callahan and the Jays have their game plan, and they're ready for the challenge.

"I think team defense is the key," Callahan said. "We can't simply rely on one person to control the ball. We really need to move as a team, whether it be in transition on attack or recovery and defense. Everything we've done this year we've been successful when we've played as a team. We're not just about one person, and we are going to have to use all 11 players on the field to give them a run."

# Cross country flies across the country

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

"In the past, Coach Van Allen has set high goals for the team in the past, and we've always fallen short of those goals. I think now we have one of the strongest teams that I can remember, and it's my belief that we will be able to accomplish our goals this time around."

Hopefully for Hopkins, the team will learn from the race and truly be prepared for what should be a dogfight with Gettysburg and Muhlenberg in order to place in the top half at the Centennial Conference Championships on Saturday, Oct. 29.

There was at least one person that felt at home in the hills and heat of California. Freshman Rachel Hogen, a resident of the Golden State, was in her element on the 5,000-meter course.

Finishing with a stellar time of 20:13, Hogen placed 43rd in a field full of great schools and superb unattached racers. Following the freshman phenom was junior Californian Christine Medina (57th) and Emma Hiza (59th), a duo the team was glad to have back in stride again.

Competing in a harsh environment on the other side of the country, the team had many other factors to deal with besides the rough settings. Sophomore Angela Kaon, consistently the best runner on varsity seven, was left behind to run at the team's other meet at Gettysburg due to a lingering sickness.

In addition to the absence of their star, the women's team had to deal with stiff competition from Division I and Division II contingents. Also, the intimidating presence of a multitude of steep inclines did not appear to help the team's already problematic set of circumstances.

In the end, it was not pretty, as the team racked up a disappointing 286 points. Finishing 11th in the standings was quite disheartening, to say the least, but the team's spiritual leader, sophomore Jacci Claus, tended to look at the bright side of things.



COURTESY OF ANDREW BAUERSCHMIDT  
**Sophomore Pat Brandon led the way for the Jays in California.**

Although this meet was not exactly the kind of racing we've been trained to do, I know the conference meet will have better results," said Claus.

Kaon agreed with her classmate. "We'll be ready for (Centennial Conference Championships), there is no doubt," she said.

So was this just one of those times when the results did not reflect the true effort of the Hopkins' women's team? Can the team rebound to defeat a highly-touted Dickinson team as well as up-and-coming groups from Muhlenberg and Swarthmore, teams they've battled with all year?

These questions and others, of course, will have to be answered by the performance of the Jays' team in their most important meet of the season a week from Saturday. The Jays will be hosting the Centennial Conference Championships on Oct. 29 at Oregon Ridge Park in Timonium.

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK SEAN MCCREERY, WATER POLO

# McCreery swims the extra mile

BY DREW LEFKOF  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Utility Sean McCreery didn't have to travel down to the Naval Academy every other weekend once his water polo season ended last year. While his teammates turned down head coach Ted Bresnahan's offer to train in Annapolis with the North East National Team, alongside other Division I players, McCreery, now a sophomore, gladly accepted.

"Playing with better players helped make me a smarter player. I tried to mimic what they did, and it helped me up my level of play. It also showed me what I still needed to work on," McCreery said.

McCreery said that he lacked the strength and quickness of the Division I players, which motivated him to train religiously over the summer.

"The guys on that team were really fit and fast. I knew I needed to get in better shape," he said. "So, every morning, I swam and then followed that up by lifting in the afternoons. I would also coach my high school team and play at the community college near my house. It was kind of cool. I pretty much lived at the pool this past summer."

So far, his work has paid off. On Sunday, McCreery scored four goals to help lift the Jays over MIT 13-8, capturing the Division III Eastern Championship flag in the process. His revamped game has also coincided with the team's overall improvement as they are currently ranked No. 16 in the nation among all divisions.

"Last year, we still did well in Division III, but the team has really changed," McCreery said. "We're taking it more seriously. It's really great to be able to compete with these Division I schools."

He pointed to the team's victories last week over Bucknell and George Washington, both Division I schools, as evidence of the team's rapid improvement. He added that the team's improvement and increased competi-



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER  
**Sophomore Utility Sean McCreery, left, is the Athlete of the Week.**

tiveness necessitated a greater kinship between the players.

"When you look at a big Division I program, you don't necessarily see more of a huge increase in talent, but in chemistry. Teams move as a fluid group and that's

"Winning big games here in college and actually competing is great. I'm starting to really enjoy this. We went undefeated in my junior year [in high school] as we pulled off some big wins against some really good teams. I've been used to winning since then it seems," he said.

He added that the way his high school career concluded motivated him to seek success in college.

"My team lost our last game in my senior year. It was really devastating, and it inspired me to play well and work hard in my collegiate career. However, my high school coach, who is one of my biggest mentors, encouraged me to still work hard and inspired me to seek success in college," he said.

McCreery said that his roots in the pool back home in Pleasant Hills, Calif., remain an important influence.

"I was basically raised in the pool. I've been swimming for such a long time," he said. "My parents stuck me in a pool as soon as I was basically able to stand up straight. They'd even drive me two hours sometimes to get to the nearest pool."

VITAL STATISTICS

**Name:** Sean McCreery

**Position:** Utility

**Height:** 6'2"

**Major:** International Studies

**Hopkins Highlights:** Scored four goals in finals en route to Eastern D-III Championship, currently leading Jays to highest ranking in program history.

hard to beat. I love our team now. The team is tight and close knit, as we hang out a lot," he said.

As the Blue Jays begin to receive national recognition, McCreery said that continuing to enjoy success in his collegiate career as he did in high school is satisfying.

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SPORTS



DAVID JOHNSON/NEWS-LETTER

Forward Akash Naik is one of the many freshmen players who are helping the soccer team stay competitive this season. The Jays are 9-2-4.

# M. Soccer beats Ursinus in 3-0 shutout

BY MELISSA KIM  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Some of the men’s soccer team’s best players get to devote almost all of their energy to the team. Maybe it’s because their grades are covered.

This year’s team features 13 freshmen, many of whom have been instrumental to the team’s success. A member of Hopkins’ youngest class scored the game winner in the first half of Saturday’s game against Ursinus en route to a 3-0 victory. The win brought the Blue Jays’ record to 9-2-4.

Leading the pack of 13 freshmen is midfielder Nick Gauna, who also is the team’s forerunner in points with

ten, which includes four goals.

Back in September, Gauna was named the Centennial Conference Men’s Soccer Player of the Week. He is the only player on the team to have earned that title so far this season.

Also not to be ignored is freshman midfielder Matt Carlson, who notched the team’s first goal against the Bears — and the only one the Jays needed. Hopkins scored two more in the first half to take care of their Centennial Conference rival Ursinus.

The two goals that followed Carlson’s were scored by junior midfielder Blaine Phillips and senior forward and co-captain Adam Simon. All three goals were scored in the first half.

“There is no better feeling than scoring the winning goal in a game. It is even more of an adrenaline rush now that we’re coming to the end of our regular season, where goals and wins are starting to really get crucially important,” said Carlson.

“Turning around to celebrate with fellow teammates after scoring the goal is really the most satisfying part of the whole thing.”

season home game of the season this Saturday when they face conference rival Franklin & Marshall College at 7 p.m. on Homewood Field.

Last season, the Jays defeated F&M 2-1. This game will be important for the Jays, as it will affect their standing in next week’s Centennial Conference tournament.

Not only am I looking up to the upperclassmen as friends, students and players, but also as big brothers.

—FRESHMAN  
MIDFIELDER MATT  
CARLSON

# Tight defense seals another win for Jays

Continued from Page A12

season-high seven sacks. While they did not provide the “magical” play that fans have become accustomed to, they did provide the overall solid defensive effort that we may now take for granted.

“Those guys have always played well,” Scott said. “Cook and Hagel, they come up huge every week. It seems like everyone on the defense played well every week.”

For another week, the offense strung together just enough to help Hopkins win another Centennial Conference game. Senior quarterback Zach DiIunno hooked up with junior wide receiver Anthony Triplin — what seems to be becoming a high octane connection — for a 12-yard touchdown, and Hopkins didn’t stop rolling.

On the day, DiIunno finished with 119 yards and one touchdown and also rushed for a career-high 34 yards. Senior running back T.J. Lyons, fresh off being named *The News-Letter’s* Athlete of the Week, ran for 77 yards. Rising star Anthony Triplin had four receptions and a touchdown.

After the Triplin touchdown that tied the game at ten, the key for DiIunno’s offense was to simply get into Ben Scott’s range for a game-winning field goal.

“It is nice to know that we have a great defense. But on the other hand, points need to be scored in order to win games,” Lyons said. “When

push comes to shove, the offense is going to need to show up in order to win the big games.”

While the offense didn’t blow up like they have in the past, getting Scott into field goal range is about all they need to do to win on a weekly basis.

The junior had another great game, only bolstering what has been a fine season. Scott kicked a 36-yarder to open up the scoring in the first, and ended the game with a 42-yarder that would prove to be the game-winner and clinched Hopkins a share in the Centennial Conference title.

“Winning the Centennial Conference feels extremely good,” Scott said. “Doing this against Muhlenberg, this makes it feel much sweeter.”

While beating rival Muhlenberg sparked some emotion after the game, it’s safe to say that after reality sets in, this team will take their Centennial Conference title and look to move further.

Hopkins has yet to win the title outright, as their 4-0 conference record is better than Franklin and Marshall and Gettysburg who sit at 3-1. A win this week against Ursinus would help clinch the title outright, and secure a berth in the NCAA Playoffs — the ultimate goal for this team.

“No doubt this victory will resonate with us for a while,” Scott said. “Once we get to the NCAA playoffs, we know that every game will be much bigger.”

There are obviously huge benefits and drawbacks to being a freshman athlete.

One of the benefits has been the relationship that forms between the freshmen and the upperclassmen. The seniors have been a huge asset to the freshmen, serving as role models both on and off the field.

“Not only am I looking up to the upperclassman as friends, students and players, but also as big brothers,” said Carlson. “I can’t stop asking questions about how some of these seniors have gotten to where they are now, and I hope to emulate them.”

The freshmen class has also had to pay their dues at practice as the youngest and newest members of the team.

“We run an extra loop around campus for forgetting balls in about 35-degree torrential downpour,” said Carlson. “We also do ‘crab walks’ across the field, and we also do a ball heading drill which basically becomes a mosh pit where freshmen throw themselves mercilessly into one another with the intent of getting the slightest touch of the ball with their head.”

Overall, the benefits do outweigh the physical drills for these freshmen. Being part of a team in college has been a huge advantage to their college transition.

“The team chemistry has been great this year. Hanging with the boys on the weekend after big Saturday night wins is especially fun,” said Carlson. “All the players on this year’s squad seem to have a smokin’ good time, just because the seniors — with their experience — help make everything that much better.”

The Jays will play their last regular

considered to be a rival to face in the tournament.

“Since I’m only playing against some of these players from other schools for the first time this year, I’m only beginning to learn who the players are that I will smoke for seasons to come,” said Carlson. “I think as of right now Muhlenberg is definitely the team that the underclassman have our sights on for the upcoming years.”

# Volleyball hopes for the top seed

With wins this week, Blue Jays may earn a No. 1 Centennial spot

Continued from Page A12

assists in this match to give her 1,200 for the season.

While the Blue Jays might not be playing the smoothest games, they clearly have been getting by due to their skill and determination. In a recent game against Washington College, the Jays went on a 12-2 run to prevent their opponents from winning the second game.

Combine that effort with the 21-3 run that they put on against Bryn Mawr, and it is easy to see that Johns Hopkins is not short on talent or resolve. The telling factor for this team will be their ability to play at the highest level possible.

Instead of playing down to teams that are positioned in last place or close to the bottom of the standings, the Blue Jays will have to play like the first-place team that they are if they hope to win the conference tournament.

# Polo beats MIT to win tourney

Jays win Division III Eastern Tournament

Continued from Page A12

blocks.” In total, Williams had 11 saves.

But before rolling through the tournament, Hopkins made a stop at George Washington. The Blue Jays, No. 4 in the CWPA poll, had no trouble dispatching the Colonials, No. 9 in CWPA, in September by a score of 10-3. This game, however, proved to be a bit harder.

After the first quarter, Hopkins and George Washington were tied at 3-3. The second and third quarters were déjà vu for the two teams, ending in 5-5 and 8-8 ties.

Finally, in the last quarter, with a little more than three minutes left, McCreery put the game away. He put Hopkins ahead 9-8, and then scored again with a little less than two minutes left.

George Washington could only answer with one, bringing the score to 10-9 and setting the stage for sophomore Chris Hemmerle to finish the job. With 51 seconds left in the game, Hemmerle found the net, leaving the final score at 11-9.

“[George Washington] played a hard game and had definitely improved over the season,” said Sung. “They also had the home pool advantage.”

Hopkins will be facing George Washington again this weekend at the Southern Championships at Navy. The Blue Jays will see another familiar foe in Slippery Rock.

Hopkins defeated Slippery Rock earlier in the season 10-5.

As another tournament looms, the team isn’t giving themselves a break.

“We’re trying to get the guys ready, mentally and physically,” said head coach Ted Bresnahan.

Sung also added, “At this point in the season, we’re refining what the team does and trying to take it to the next level.”

But taking it to the next level won’t be easy, as the Jays continue to face both injuries and exams. The team employs a firm policy of academics before athletics, making it hard to have a full team during practices when midterms start.

If they beat both Slippery Rock and George Washington, Hopkins will go on to play in the semi-finals.

If they make it to the semi-finals, placing fourth or higher, the team will automatically move on to the Eastern Championships for both Divisions I and III. There, the top team will go on to play in the NCAA final four.

Last year, Hopkins came in fifth place, losing to Bucknell by two goals, and was unable to go to the Eastern Championships. But however the team places, they’ve already exceeded all expectations.

“We’ve achieved all of our goals that we set at the beginning of the season,” said Bresnahan. “We made it to the top 20 nationally and the top four regionally.”



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Sophomore goalkeeper Mitch Williams made 11 saves against MIT.

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## CALENDAR

## SATURDAY

Football vs. Ursinus	1 p.m.
Volleyball vs. Ursinus	1 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Ursinus	5 p.m.
M. Soccer vs. Franklin & Marshall	7 p.m.



## SPORTS

## DID YOU KNOW?

White Sox left fielder and lead-off hitter Scott Podsednik, having hit zero home runs in 507 regular season at-bats, hit a walk-off home run against the Astros' Brad Lidge to win game two of the World Series. Podsednik became the first player to ever hit a walk-off home run in the Series after recording no regular season homers.

## W. Soccer drops two stretch games

BY ALLISON STODDART  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Twenty-three shots. Twenty-three times the fans stood up in desperate hope while the rain fell steadily on their umbrellas. Twenty-three times they sat back down in frustration.

The Johns Hopkins women's soccer team took 23 shots, compared to the three that Dickinson College managed, but Dickinson came away the victor on Tuesday, defeating Hopkins, 2-0.

Lisa Nichols opened up the scoring for Dickinson early in the first half. She received a pass from Erin Parkyn, then dribbled past the defense for a one-on-one with senior goalkeeper Jen Goebel. She took a low, hard shot to give Dickinson the lead at 5:17. The Blue Jays tried to avenge the unfortunate goal, putting up 11 shots during the first half.

In the second half, Hopkins continued to dominate and kept the ball almost entirely in the offensive end.

They did, however, give up a direct kick on defense. Dickinson's Jessica Griggs took advantage of this opportunity, scoring unassisted at 67:57. This was Dickinson's first and only shot of the second half.

"We did everything right but put the ball in the net," said head coach Leo Weil.

The ball just didn't seem to bounce right for Hopkins. Maybe it was the cold, or maybe it was the rain, but each shot that the Blue Jays took slipped just a foot or so from where they wanted it. The ball hopped just right or left of the post several times and rebounded off the football crossbar on a few other occasions. No matter where it hit, it was never the back of the net.

This is the same problem they faced two weeks earlier against Gettysburg. Hopkins significantly outshot both teams but suffered 2-0 losses in the two games. In fact, Hopkins has outshot each of their opponents this season, with the exception of the College of New Jersey on Sept. 22.

Despite the score, Hopkins played with solid teamwork throughout the game. The 23 shots were divided among 11 different players. Junior midfielder Jessie McKenzie led the team with seven.

Going into the match, a 2-0 loss



Junior forward Laurie Baumann and the Jays offense couldn't manage a goal against Dickinson on Tuesday.

to Dickinson would clearly not have been the result that the Blue Jays would have chosen, but it would have been a surprising outcome. Dickinson was and is, in fact, ranked No. 1 in the Centennial Conference. With Tuesday night's win, they clinched at least a share of the Centennial Conference title and also remain undefeated in conference play.

The fact that Hopkins was able to monopolize control of the ball for nearly the entire game against the top-ranked team in the conference helps to prove the potential that this team carries to be conference champions this year.

"I'm confident that we have the best team in the conference," said junior defender Sarah Lombardi.

If Hopkins had pulled off the victory, they would have hosted the conference tournament and taken the conference title for

themselves. Now, however, the team will travel to Dickinson to avenge the loss and try to procure the title.

"There's no team I'd rather be going into conferences with," Lombardi said. "We're really excited to play them again in conferences."

The Blue Jays fell to 13-3-1 this season after Tuesday's loss. They started out the season with a 9-0 record in the month of September. However, in October they are currently boasting a modest 4-3-1 record. With one regular season game left, Hopkins is looking to pick up an extra win before heading into the tournament to ensure a bye in the first round.

So far, only Gettysburg and Ursinus have clinched playoff berths in addition to Hopkins and Dickinson. Haverford and Franklin & Marshall are battling

for the final spot.

This Saturday, the Blue Jays travel to Lancaster, Pa. to take on Franklin & Marshall, currently 10-4-1 for the season.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

## Volleyball holds on to conference lead

BY JOHN MONAGAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With the Centennial Conference tournament lurking in the near future, the Johns Hopkins volleyball team continues to squeeze by vastly inferior opponents, not playing the kind of stretch games that the coaches of the Blue Jays would like to see.

While a 3-0 (30-25, 30-23, 30-14) score at Bryn Mawr might look good on paper, it is important to know that the Blue Jays trailed in each of the three games against the 6-16 Owls.

"We have lots of issues with keeping the flow right now," said assistant coach Lauren Petrick. "Our matches have been like roller coasters recently. We tend to play down to our opponents' level, instead of playing at the level of which we are capable. What is important, however, is that even though we are playing down to our opponents, we are still getting the job done."

The Owls, who sit in last place in the Centennial Conference with a 1-7 conference record, used Blue Jay errors to grab a lead of 8-6 in the first game, 18-14 in the second game, and 11-9 in the third game.

It wasn't until the third game that the Blue Jays played at their level, winning 21 of the final 24 points, and winning the game, 30-14. While coming away with a win, the coaches always prefer to see a consistent effort from the team.

"We have had different people playing well every game," said assistant coach Carrie Sniffen. "In order



TURSINA ABDUL-RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

Senior Jen Hajj (left) is one reason the Jays expect playoff glory.

for this team to succeed, we need to have everybody playing well. It has been difficult to set lineups and make substitutions with such inconsistent play."

For the Blue Jays, senior middle blocker Jen Hajj led the way statistically with 14 kills, for which she was awarded Centennial Conference Player of the Week for the second time this season. Hajj hit at a .629 rate for the game by all means an impressive hitting percentage.

Sophomore outside hitter Natalia Fijalkowski also contributed 14 kills to the winning effort. Freshman setter Amanda Lewis, who has continuously piled on a tremendous number of assists in each match this year, broke the school record for assists in a season, collecting 38

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

## W. polo wins Eastern D-III title

BY ALENA GEFFNER-MIHLSTEN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Returning as defending champions, Hopkins' men's water polo team blew the competition away to win the Eastern Division III Championships. After an exhausting week, the water polo team, already No. 1 in Division III, moved up in the national water polo rankings from No. 20 to No. 16.

Hopkins traveled to Connecticut College this past weekend to compete against Connecticut College, Penn State-Behrend and MIT to win the tournament.

The Blue Jays came out strong in their first game against the home team, Connecticut College. After the first half, Hopkins was leading 5-3 due to a strong offensive push. The already-formidable offense accelerated in the second half, where the Blue Jays scored 10 goals to the Camels' one, to charge to a 15-4 finish.

"We started out a little slow in the first half, but, in the second half we picked up the game and really put it away," said assistant coach Kai Sung.

Several teammates contributed to the high score, with senior James Singleton having three goals, and senior Billy Irvine and junior David Strickland scoring two goals each.

For the second game of the weekend, against Penn State-Behrend, Hopkins kept up their energy.

"We came into the game very focused," said Sung.

The Jays jumped to a 6-1 lead in the first quarter and never looked back, carrying the lead for the entire game. Irvine, senior Jacob Honig and sophomore Sean McCreery scored three apiece, propelling

Hopkins to a 17-5 victory and a final berth.

The Jays were looking for MIT in the finals, and they found them. Hopkins and MIT have had a long rivalry, but the book has been closing as Hopkins has taken control of the recent match-ups.

Hopkins closed the book a little further.

MIT came out strong, initially leading 2-0, but the Jays managed to reclaim the lead by the end of the first quarter. After the first half, the

Blue Jays led 8-3.

They kept their five goal lead throughout the second half, ending the game at 13-8. Leading the team in scoring were Singleton, McCreery, and freshman Peter Davis with four goals each.

Sophomore goalie Mitch Williams was also instrumental in helping Hopkins win.

"Williams played a great game," said Sung. "He did an excellent job of setting the tone and getting key

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

## Football secures conference crown

BY BRIAN GALBRAITH  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Throughout the season, the main goal of the Johns Hopkins football team was to win the Centennial Conference championship. Playing against Muhlenberg—a bitter rival—at their opponents' campus only sweetened the glory for the Blue Jays.

A familiar face made it back into the limelight, as junior kicker Ben Scott kicked two field goals, adding

onto his total for the season, in a 13-10 victory.

"Our special teams seem to come up big when it really counts," Scott said. "Our punting was huge

loss."

Hopkins went into Scotty Wood Stadium with a target on their back, looking to keep their record undefeated. For the early portion of the game, Muhlenberg seemed up to the task. At halftime, the Mules were up 10-3 as they kicked a 20-yard field goal to end the half.

When play resumed, however, the Hopkins defense stepped up and didn't give Muhlenberg an inch. Senior linebacker Adam Luke, junior linebacker Matt Hagel and junior defensive lineman Brian Cook helped to provide the defensive punch.

The defense kept Muhlenberg quarterback Matt Johnson under pressure all day, coming up with a

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Johns Hopkins (7-0)	3	0	0	10	13
Muhlenberg (3-4)	0	7	3	0	10

Passing:	Johnson (MUHL) - 141 yards, 11 for 30, TD
Rushing:	Lyons (JHU) - 77 yards, 26 rushes
Receiving:	Triplin (JHU) - 69 yards, 4 receptions, TD

once we got the lead, because they were bringing everyone and a blocked punt could have meant a



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Senior LB Mike Aynardi is part of a Jays defense that expects dominance.

## Men's soccer gets a fresh perspective

With two games left in the regular season, the men's soccer's team has a 10-2-4 record. And they couldn't have done it without their frosh. Page A10.

## INSIDE

## Field Hockey taken over by Colonials

The Jays dropped a tough match to Centennial foe Washington College. Will beating soft Bryn Mawr get them back on track? Page A10.

## Sean McCreery is Athlete of the Week

Diligent offseason training is paying off for Sean McCreery. His extra effort is helping the water polo team make a splash this year. Page A10.

Even though it was painful to look at the results of the meet—names that usually appear at the top of the standings sat abnormally close to the bottom—both Bauerschmidt and Chiang voiced a great amount of optimism.

"We match up really well with Gettysburg, and I am pretty confident we will be close with those guys and Muhlenberg come conferences," said Chiang.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10



# The B Section

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2005

GRAPHIC BY WILLIAM  
PARSCHALK/NEWS-LETTER

## Last-minute costume ideas

Panicked at the thought of showing up to a party sans costume? Have no fear — there are plenty of surefire quickies.

## Enjoying hot soup in cold weather

BY JUSTIN OREN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With the arrival of severe breezes and falling leaves, the coming of winter is becoming more evident every day. We start looking to more reassuring foods — dishes that warm us and make us feel at home. Barbecues and beer are eschewed in favor of hearty meals and apple cider. Among my personal cold weather favorites are soups and stews.

The advantage of soup and stew is that they can be made cheaply and easily. Virtually anyone with a stove and an appropriately large pot can make some sort of successful meal without too much fuss. In a sense, making these foods is the quintessential experience of uncomplicated cooking. You only need to consider time and ingredients, as the cooking method itself is almost invariably just throwing things into a pot of hot water.

Since soup and stew are such forgiving dishes, we can experiment with herbs, spices, vegetables or whatever else we think might work. The spirit of improvisation triumphs, because it is nearly impossible to ruin a soup to such an extent that it is inedible. Feel free to raid the mysterious ingredients that you may have in your pantry for a bold departure from the ordinary.

A cooking novice can use this as a way to learn how flavors interact and how a 'delicate equilibrium' of flavor can be disrupted or adjusted by adding other ingredients.

Using store-bought stock, a delicious soup can take as little as an hour to make. I highly recommend buying this product if time is an issue — no one will really notice, and even celebrity chefs on the Food Network praise today's commercial stock as acceptable. You can produce a very suitable Maryland Crab Soup in this manner with guidance from the Old Bay Web site, and I am certain that other such recipes exist.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

## All Hallows Eve

Focus on Page B2



NATE BATES/FILE PHOTO

## Fell's Point

Check out the epicenter of Baltimore's ghouls and freaks.

## Alternate destinations

There are plenty of places to party come that fateful night.

## A holiday history

The myths and truths behind every kid's favorite holiday.

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DENISE TERRY/FILE PHOTO

## Discussing the trauma of assault

BY MELISSA ARTNAK  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Regardless of the details of a particular sexual assault victim's situation, once the medical exam is over and the immediate surge of emotions and shock has waned, it could be tempting to not acknowledge the sexual assault ever again. But, for most, this is perhaps one of the least healthy ways to handle the situation. It's certainly not easy to think back on the trauma of a sexual assault, but sharing your feelings is a huge leap towards emotional recovery.

"It is important to take care of the physical part of [a sexual assault], but also the long-term, psychological impact that is very difficult to deal with in the long run," said Barbara Gwinn, director of the Center for Student Health and Wellness. Gwinn also noted that if the psychological impact caused by a sexual assault is left untreated, it can lead to problems in the future.

Dr. Barbara Baum, a psychologist at the Counseling Center, emphasizes that talking to someone about the sexual assault and its accompanying feelings can be very helpful. She recommends that victims share their feelings about the traumatic experience with a person they trust — "The sooner the better," she said. "The longer you sit with [the feelings] and keep it in, the more intense it can feel. ... Keeping it inside makes it feel like some terrible secret, while sharing it can make you feel less alone and more able to care about and respect yourself."

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



# HALLOWEENFOCUS



Students enjoy the festive atmosphere at Fell's Point while wearing their own interpretations of the tuxedo.

## JHU enjoys a Fell's tradition

BY LIZA WEHRLY  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Annually drawing a diverse crowd of revelers, Halloween festivities in Fell's Point range from vampire brides to ninja turtles and from college students to Baltimore locals. The whole rowdy bunch that fills the streets of Fell's Point on Oct. 31 is usually made up of quite a few Hopkins students looking for a memorable Halloween experience.

While the 21-and-over crowd is drawn to Fell's on Halloween for the multitude of bars that are located in this section of Baltimore, people of all ages journey there to celebrate the holiday in the open air.

Easily accessible to Hopkins students via a short cab ride or buses organized by Student Council, and many Hopkins students end up in Fell's for at least some portion of their Halloween night.

Beyond its accessibility, the bus trip to Fell's is endurable for students eager with curiosity to find out what all the fuss is about. "Figuring out what Fell's is like is a main part of the appeal causing students to go to Fell's on Halloween," said sophomore Margaret Paek.

For Hopkins students the allure of Fell's on Halloween is something akin to that of an unwritten Hopkins tradition passed on from upper-classmen to freshmen.

"When I was a freshman, upper-classmen said that going to Fell's for Halloween was something you have to do at least once at Hopkins, so I decided to try it out," said sophomore Greg Gottimer.

"Going to Fell's for Halloween is the thing to do," says sophomore Cara Merriman who enjoyed the party at Fell's last year. "I had been going out all weekend in my Boy Scout costume to various campus parties and I had heard that it was really fun and similar to the Village in New York."

Students who heed tradition and decide to give Fell's a try generally end up satisfied with their decision to join the party.

"It was definitely worth going," said Merriman who plans on going again this year. "Going to Fell's makes it worth the work that is entailed in planning a costume and getting dressed up — it's not like any other night you are going to have at Hopkins because everyone is in a super mood and people's costumes are fabulous."

Even those who weren't satisfied with all aspects of the party agreed that it was worth going for a little while.

"It was a lot of fun," said Gottimer. "There were a lot of people there and some of the costumes were really amazing, but all the bars were 21 and older, so after a while it got boring standing outside and we went to Power Plant because

it was 18 and older to get in."

Beyond not being able to get into bars, some people have not had the best experiences at Fell's, and it is important to be wary. Junior Kiran Valiani said, "two years ago when I went to Fell's Point for Halloween I went to this really shady club called Bohagers. One of my friends got drunk and was punched by a paramedic. Fell's Point is just a big mob of drunk college kids on Halloween, and it wasn't exactly a fun night for me."

Students who have gone in the past agree that there are a few things that people should know before throwing on a costume and boarding the bus.

Safety is important to remember when partying in big crowds or in city districts. Merriman advised, "Go with a bunch of friends and make sure that people you know are going to be there. The area around Fell's is not the best, so it's a good idea to stay in control and know what's going on at all times."

In addition to being aware of surroundings, many agree that the night is more fun — and safe — spent in the company of friends.

Finally if you're looking to get into a bar without a legitimate ID, it's not the best place to go. Because of the sheer number of people that head to Fell's, the bars are quite strict so don't assume that your fake California ID will suffice.

## Find unique holiday fun

BY PASHA HADIDI  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

As that special time of year once again rolls around, many out there are beginning to think of getting dressed up, perhaps a little inebriated and going door to door asking for candy from people they don't know. No, it's not a bachelor's party gone wrong. Halloween is just around the corner.

Most of the students who have been around Hopkins for a year or two already know about the big celebration at Fells Point, near Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For those readers out there who are less familiar, Fells Point holds an annual "Bmore-Mardi Gras" on Halloween, complete with people parading around in costumes.

Most of the shops, bars and eateries in Fells Point are also thrown open for the celebration on this one-of-a-kind night. The celebration at Fells Point is certainly a highlight of a Baltimore-style Halloween, but for those who prefer a different path there is still some hope.

There are plenty of alternatives to attending Fells Point on Halloween night. There are so many great things going on in the area, there is no need to limit yourself on one of most festive nights of the year.

### Trick or Treat in Style

Got trick or treating in Roland Park. Who says it's only for little kids? Hopefully the size of the houses in the neighborhood will coincide in some way with the amount of candy doled out. Your costume can't be "college student," though.

### Be Cultured

Go see the London After Dark film series at the Baltimore Museum of Art. It's free for students, and it's right on campus. The showing will be at 8 p.m. on Friday the 28th.

### Host a Party

Host your own Halloween party! Just don't let Housing catch you doing it, or (much more reasonably) take it somewhere off-campus. Check out <http://www.webtender.com/handbook/games> for more information. Or, maybe you'd rather take it easy and not indulge tonight. Throw a theme party. Your costume theme could range from Disney characters to the classic "Pimps and Hoes," or anything in between. Get creative.

### Hear a Band

Check out the Funk Box on Federal Hill, also known as the Eight by

Ten, on the 31st. This year the Funk Box will be hosting The Bridge, an up and coming band from Baltimore, on Halloween. If you're into Jazz, Rock, Bluegrass, Funk, or Electronica, and especially a fusion of these diverse styles, this concert will be right up your alley. Admission for the night is \$12, and the address is 10 East Cross St.

### Scare Yourself Silly

If you want to check out a tra-

thing unique to check out Halloween weekend. While the park will not be open Halloween night, it will remain open until 10 p.m. on both the Friday and Saturday before the 31st. The park will have a lot of unique events going on, such as karaoke and a House of Horrors, and it is a great chance to go to an amusement park before the weather becomes unbearable.

### Flee Baltimore



Sophomores Erica Martin, Kristy Chu, Alina Markova and Franca Kraenzlin dress up for a party at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

ditional "haunted forest" attraction, look into Markoff's Haunted Forest, located at 19120 Martinsburg Rd., in Dickerson. It was recently rated number one in the nation. And if the whole thing turns out to be boring, you can always join in on the fun of scaring the revelers. Just bring a mask.

### Get Down

If you're in the mood to go clubbing somewhere outside of Baltimore, try the DTPDC in Washington which is hosting Halloween parties throughout the weekend, and caters specifically to college students and young professionals. Go to <http://absoluteaddiction.com> for more information.

### Roller coaster of Fun

Fright Fest at Six Flags is some-

Go to Washington, D.C. The train ticket is only \$7 one-way on Friday, and the most powerful city in the nation will have monuments to gaze at and restaurants to lounge in. Make a stop by Washington's famous 9:30 Club, which will be featuring different music artists every night Halloween weekend. Get tickets fast.

In case your interest is piqued by the celebration at Fells Point, keep in mind that you can check out a lot of these events all in one night.

The bottom line is that there are loads of things to do in the Baltimore/D.C. area and there is no reason to stay in your room watching scary movies, or worse, studying. So create a costume, get some friends together, and get out there and enjoy yourself.

## Halloween stems from diverse cultures

BY LEAH BOURNE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Every year on Oct. 31, people across the world dress up as monsters, princesses or their favorite movie star for a holiday called Halloween. It isn't a national holiday, or a religious holiday, so what exactly has led to this phenomenon of candy, pumpkins and dress up.

The word "Halloween" comes from the Catholic Church and is a contracted version of All Hallows Eve. All Hallows Day, or All Saints Day, takes place on Nov. 1, and is a day of observance in honor of saints.

The evolution of Halloween as we know it today began in the fifth century B.C. in Celtic Ireland. Summer officially ended on Oct. 31 making the day a special holiday.

The Celts believed that all laws of space and time were suspended during this day, which allowed the spirits of the dead to intermingle with the living. Some Celtic legend even went so far as to say that the disembodied spirits of those that had died during the year would come back to earth during this time in order to possess living bodies.

The story goes that on the night of Oct. 31 those in Celtic villages would extinguish the fires in their homes, and then relight their fires from a common source, the Druidic fire.

However, as lore developed surrounding this tradition, a story was spread that on Halloween the Celtic villagers would extinguish the fires in their homes, dress up in a ghoulish and unattractive manner, and parade around the village in order to make themselves and their homes

look as undesirable as possible in order to keep to the disembodied spirits away.

The Romans adopted a lot of these practices, and Celtic traditions began to blend with other Roman celebrations that took place in the month of October. Over time practices became increasingly ritualized. Eventually, people stopped believing that spirits would inhabit their bodies but they continued to dress up as ghosts and goblins for ceremonial purposes.

The practice of wearing Halloween customs didn't come to North America until the 1840s when Irish immigrants, fleeing the potato famine that was plaguing Ireland, brought this custom with them.

The custom of trick-or-treating on Halloween came from an entirely different source. In the 9th century in Europe on Nov. 2, All Souls Day, Christians would walk from village to village begging for "soul cakes," or square pieces of bread with fruit currants. The goal of this practice was to receive as many soul cakes as possible, and after collecting the cakes, those that received them would promise to say a prayer for the deceased relative of the person that gave them the cakes. People believed that prayer would expedite the process of taking a soul into the afterlife.

Trick or treating became widespread during the depression in the United States during the 1930s and early 1940s when costumed children went from house to house looking for a handout, usually candy. In return the children would not play a



Two young girls enjoy the age-old tradition of trick or treating.

trick on the person that was giving it to them.

The use of the Jack-O-lantern at Halloween stems from Irish folklore and the tale of Jack, a notorious drunk, who tricked the devil into climbing into a tree, and then carved a cross on the tree, trapping the devil. According to the legend, Jack made a deal with the devil to set him free, but later when Jack died he was denied entrance to both heaven and hell. He was given a single ember by the Devil to navigate through the darkness of his afterlife, and he placed the ember into a turnip in order to make it last longer.

The Irish originally used turnips to re-enact this tale, but found

pumpkins to be more plentiful when they came to the United States.

The symbolic meaning associated with witches on broomsticks and black cats took hold in Medieval Europe as people believed that on Halloween witches could fly to meet with the devil. People also believed that black cats were either witches in disguise or spirits of the dead come back to life.

Halloween as we know it today is a blend of many traditions and cultures, drawing from traditions of Celtic Ireland to the Romans. In many ways the Halloween that we now celebrate has taken on a distinct universal form.

## LAST MINUTE COSTUMES

If you're running out of time and still can't think of a costume, scour your closet and try one of these easy yet reliable costumes:

### Pirate

This Halloween classic is easy to put together. Take an old pair of black sweatpants and fray the edges with scissors. Put on a white blouse, and tie a red scarf or piece of fabric around your waist and a bandana around your head. Borrow some gold costume jewelry, and dab on some black face paint to make a beard if you don't naturally sport one. You will be saying "Ahoy, mate" before you know it.

### Gypsy

With the popularity of gypsy skirts and chandelier earrings for some this will hardly seem like a costume. Nonetheless, it is quite easy to put together. Wear a layered skirt, and as many different colors and fabrics as you can think of. Layer necklaces and jewelry to accessorize the costume. Complete the look with a tambourine if possible.

### Cowgirl

Best if you already own cowboy boots, this is an easy costume to put together at the last minute. Wear a short denim skirt or daisy dukes, a button-down plaid shirt tied at the bottom, a chunky belt and a cow-

boy hat and you will be ready to head to the open range.

### Rambo

Sylvester Stalone brought Rambo to life in his hit movie, but you too can be a jungle fighter this Halloween. Just don a pair of military cargo pants, a red bandana and a tee shirt. If you're brave, forgo the tee shirt Stalone-style.

### Greek God

A costume popularized by *Animal House*, this costume is practically a college uniform. Find or buy a white sheet that you don't particularly care about and wrap it around your body, securing it with safety pins. A crown of leaves puts on the finishing touch.

### Early 90s Grunge

If you don't shower on a regular basis this will be an easy costume for you. Greasy hair, a flannel shirt, tapered jeans and Dr. Martens will bring you right back to an era plagued by fashion disasters.

### Tom Cruise from Risky Business

Grab a pair of socks, an oversized white oxford, and sunglasses and you have yourself a costume! This outfit, an easy favorite, stems from a scene in *Risky Business* when Tom Cruise jams to tunes alone in his house in his house in his underwear.



# FEATURES

## Grad students find a calling and career

Moving up on the academic food chain brings a new set of challenges and rewards

BY JAMES FREEDMAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

"We're sort of in the middle of the academic food chain," said Pete Levine, a Hopkins graduate student. Most undergrads talk about the life of a grad student as if it's a thing to be feared and dreaded. Or, at the very least, something to be pitied and avoided at all costs. That's why it might be surprising that, despite low pay and an enormous workload, many graduate students at Hopkins actually seem to be — if you can believe it — happy.

Coming from diverse backgrounds and involved in a variety of different studies, many share an appreciation for the institution of which they're currently a member and a student — and that's a good thing.

That's not to say, however, that the life of a grad student is without its fair share of challenges.

Jenn Zosh, a second-year grad student in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, misses her friends from the University of Delaware, where she studied psychology as an undergraduate student. She also said she wishes there were more hours in the day.

"The worst part is not having enough time to do everything that you would like to do," Zosh said. "There aren't 40 hours in a day. There doesn't seem to be enough time to attend classes and seminars, conduct research, read papers, be a teaching assistant, run experiments, analyze data and have a social life."

Other grad students also miss the camaraderie of the undergraduate experience.

"It's socially not as much fun as college," said Adam Ruben, a fifth-year biology grad student at



Grad student Jenn Zosh prepares for a psychology lab experiment (left), then analyzes the results (right).

MELISSA ARTNAK/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins who previously attended Princeton University. "During college, you're going out and meeting new people, living on your own for the first time, staying up until all hours, having meaningful conversations or playing music. Grad school is kind of an involuntary step into a quieter life."

Despite this, Ruben still thinks attending grad school is "a good transitional step between college and real life. You work a full-time job, but you still get to do a few collegiate things."

Pete Levine, just starting his third year as a graduate student in the Writing Seminars department, has earned his M.A. from Johns

Hopkins and is now working towards an M.F.A. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and worked in public relations and at Kraft Foods before attending Hopkins.

He said that the worst part about being a grad student is "the pay."

"Though, at the same time, very few fields are going to offer people like me money to do what I love to do the most," he said.

And what does he think is the best part? The "flexibility" of the job.

"We are here to work on our projects, and there aren't a lot of restrictions on how we do it," he said.

Levine also pointed out an additional perk — the Rec Center.

"It's a pretty nice gym, and we don't pay anything for it," he said.

Even though the work is hard, tireless and often thankless — and even though they are exposed to difficult challenges and unusual situations — they're here for a reason.

"The program to which I'd applied is an excellent one, and they had an attractive financial arrangement," said Levine. "Also, the Homewood campus impressed me. I liked the quads, the quiet, the buildings, etc."

Ruben felt the same way. "I was attracted by my

department's flexibility and scope. Once in the biology department, you can try all kinds of labs, even some in other departments," he said.

Zosh is most appreciative of the resources and faculty. "The best part of being a grad student at Johns Hopkins is the resources and the faculty that are here," she said. "Having the top researches in the field all in one place makes it a terrific place to do research and grow as a student and researcher."

"The resources [at] Hopkins seem to be great. The services offered by the library are a huge help to anyone conducting research here," Zosh said.

While the opportunities for growth and learning are great for grad students at Hopkins, it does seem as if many miss the undergraduate experience.

"It is important to make the most of your time as an undergraduate and to appreciate the fact that all of your friends are within walking distance or right down the hall," Zosh said.

And Zosh has one final piece of advice for undergrads. "Make the most of your school and your experience here at Hopkins," she said.

Because, for all you know, you might soon be following in her footsteps.

## Learning to look past petty rivalries

It was a sentence I wasn't used to hearing: "That was fun but you'd need a strap-on to do anything else for me tonight." That comment was how a recent kiss of mine ended when I was out at a party. No, he was not my date, and, yes, the male in question is gay. I'm not sure how the kiss began, but the weird thing is that the entire scene wasn't all that odd to me.

The reason this encounter even registers as notable is that my date denied me later that night (I know, it even happens to the best of us) on these grounds. At first, I wasn't entirely sure why he denied me. Then I realized: my date was jealous. It's pretty common knowledge that the guy I kissed looks better in a dress than most girls at Hopkins, so, in my mind, being worried about competition is not even an issue.

This issue of boyfriends being intimidated by gay guys is not exactly new to my group of friends, but before that party, it had never really gotten personal. I need to put this out there once and for all: there's no competition. None. Nada. Nichts. I don't have a strap-on, and most gay guys I know would shudder (if not cry) at the thought of a procreative relationship.

Over the past few years, I've seen friends get in trouble with boyfriends because they kissed our resident gay friend who is, of course, annoyingly good-looking. I know that in many of the previous cases it wouldn't really have been a problem if any of us had kissed another girl. However, the same platonic move on a completely unavailable guy is out of the question. One move works to fulfill a fantasy, but the other touches on a major insecurity.

The odd relationship that most gay guys have with straight women often benefits everyone involved — the straight men in women's lives included. While it's a little overdone by now (thanks to *Will & Grace*), straight women need gay guys for a variety of reasons. Straight girls turn to gay guys for honest fashion advice, a platonic close friend

and just a male presence a girl can relax around. They're also great for going out with and using to ward off unsuitable guys. If this takes the form of holding hands, grinding or dancing, who cares? Any of these activities with the gay guy is preferable to doing them with the skeezy guy who was hitting on you. (Most girls have learned by now that grabbing another girl

and saying, "I'm with her" when they are hit on, will *always* backfire.)

Gay men need women for a whole different reason, namely, other gay men. It goes without saying that gay men have the same stress over potential partners that any straight person does. Gay men also enjoy straight women's company because we share something very important and easy to talk about — an interest in men.

So why should straight guys learn to stop being jealous and instead value women's relationships with gay men? First, it's always good to know a girl's friends, regardless of gender and sexual orientation. Secondly, gay guys can act as good go-betweens during relationship problems. He might just understand a little more about how straight guys feel than they might think, and he'll know her side a whole lot better than most guys will.

Of course, there's always the danger that the girl in question falls for the gay guy. This will happen to most girls at least once. Generally, it goes away as soon as someone gives her a good dose of reality. This is often pulled off in the form of meeting his boyfriend. He just has equipment, like an Adam's apple, she can't offer. Every once in a while a misguided guy pretends to be gay — but that act lasts for all of five minutes before he's outted and hopefully taunted by friends for a long time.

People need to relax and take things at face value. I had an ex who had a lot of lesbian friends. Once I saw one of these girls kiss him to see what it was like to make-out with a guy. She found out, then went to find her girlfriend.



JESS BEATON

ORGASMIC  
CHEMISTRY

## Soup thaws away chill of cold months

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

However, sometimes one is engaged by the muse of impractical, romantic whims, driving him to do something more.

On some idealistic level, store-bought stock will never make a good soup simply because it is store-bought, and this is cheating. It is sometimes far too simple to rely upon the nuclear rays of the microwave to heat a pre-packaged product for a pre-ordained time, for predictable results.

Instead, one resolves oneself to create something in the purest way possible, with unprocessed ingredients, love and patience.

Truly homemade food carries with it a sense of

nostalgia and family, a wistful look back to the time when you couldn't buy great prepared foods at supermarkets. It instills in the cook an appreciation for the modern life, and a love of the bygone one.

This past weekend at my house, my friends and I cooked chicken soup — from scratch. Conceived to brighten the spirits of an ill housemate, we launched on the day-long process.

This involved making chicken stock, which by itself takes six to eight hours.

The process is time-consuming, and is spent laboriously boiling chicken parts, steeping herbs and spices, and carefully skimming fat and grease away.

With so much time devoted to merely making the base of a soup, the process became an epic affair.

Friends came together with a common concern for soup, spending hours together and taking turns checking the momentarily large pot on the stove. A veritable soup micro-community congealed.

We were all focused on the novel endeavor, emotionally engaged with the challenge, anx-

iously awaiting the outcome.

Soup became the central focus of our lives — we smelled soup, we saw soup steam, we talked about soup and we dreamed about eating soup.

Approximately 24 hours after beginning cooking the stock, the soup was ready, laden with chicken, noodles, celery, et cetera. How was it, though?

Mediocre. Yes, all of that time went into making a relatively lackluster chicken noodle soup. But, by this point, the taste was secondary.

The labor, the singular vision, and the commitment made eating the soup a small victory.

The fact that a group of people spent that much time working together for one silly objective easily forgave any culinary misgivings of the final product.

I urge those with a kitchen to harness the incredible power of soup. Allow the slow, steamy process of making soup to decelerate your life to a relaxing and pastoral vision of the

past that may have never existed. It matters not, for when soup is slowly simmering on the stove, a certain idealism overtakes even the most hard-nosed realist.

Who can resist the steamy aromas, the tangible warmth, the refreshing gurgle of boiling?

Fall is the perfect season to gather with

friends, wear sweaters (perhaps even scarves) and congregatd over food.

The great quantity and low cost of soups and stews makes them perfect for entertaining large groups without an incredible amount of effort.

You really can't go wrong, and you'll end up impressing a few people if you're lucky.

And don't forget how good chili tastes while watching a football game.



JUSTIN OREN  
POST-MODERN  
GOURMET

## Peace Corps brings the world to classrooms

BY SHIRAZ RAHIM  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With the hundreds of service and volunteer projects that Hopkins students commit their time to, it's all too easy to make mistakes, like confusing Teach Baltimore and the JHU Tutorial Project, or thinking that Patchwork is a JHU sewing class (it's not).

Yet one of Hopkins' largest and most involved volunteer organizations, the Peace Corps, has a name that rises above the rest.

A fairly new organization founded at Hopkins only three years ago and currently headed by president Jillian Cordero, the JHU Peace Corps is a branch of the National Peace Corps whose goal is a general bettering and servicing of the immediate Baltimore area.

Currently, the group is focusing on two major volunteer programs aimed at expanding the skills and knowledge of local elementary school children.

One of these programs, which takes place at Margaret Brent Elementary school, just five blocks away from the Homewood campus, involves Hopkins volunteers organizing a penpal system with fourth- and fifth-grade students.

The children are assisted in improving their writing and reading skills as they write letters about themselves and their life in America to elementary school students in Bangladesh with the hopes of expanding each student's understanding of another culture while gaining skills necessary to succeed in future school years.

Furthermore, this program involves discussions between the children and Hopkins students on major issues throughout America, such

as the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, with the intent of engaging the students in provocative thought about what is happening in the world and what people should do about these issues.

Another program, called "Around the World," is an after-school program with children from second to fifth grade and is designed to give students a better understanding and appreciation of other — and, in turn, their own — cultures. Each month of the program is dedicated to a particular country, usually one that has been traditionally viewed in a negative light in American society.

Each week of each month is designated to a particular aspect of the country being presented, such as food, sports, history, geography, folklore or language. This year's countries are Cuba, Iraq, Ethiopia, Greece and Vietnam.

In recent years, the Peace Corps has expanded its program of furthering the cultural understanding of Baltimore's youth by bringing in Peace Corps volunteers from overseas to talk about their experiences in another country with the students in the penpal and Around the World programs.

Along with their new Hopkins Peace Corps friends, the students engage in various fun-filled activities designed to teach them about other cultures and get a better understanding of what the overseas volunteer has learned about a particular country.

The Peace Corps engages in far more than just teaching kids the meaning of cultural acceptance and understanding. The organization has begun to spread throughout the Baltimore community to provide services for older residents of the



MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

Peace Corps volunteers work at nearby Margaret Brent Elementary.

city. They have also volunteered at Heart's Place, a local homeless shelter, and Peggy's Place, an orphanage.

JHU Peace Corps assists with preparing dinners for, and serving these dinners to, the homeless; participates in helping orphans with homework; and provides educational materials in a group now called "The Project."

Thanks to its involvement in both the Hopkins and Baltimore communities, the Peace Corps has become one of the most influential volunteer organizations on campus.

"Our focus is to bring service to the Baltimore community," said JHU Peace Corps Vice President Nurein Fuseini, "and allow Hopkins students a way to do this, since our

programs are so close to school. We embody the National Peace Corps in trying to bring people together and create cultural understanding and respect."

For those students wishing to get even more involved with the organization, the JHU chapter also has its own recruiter who can get Hopkins students more involved with the programs run by the National Peace Corps.

In essence, the National Peace Corps offers the epitome of volunteer opportunities that often begins here in Baltimore, working with the JHU Chapter.

Perhaps one day the Baltimore kids who were helped by the programs will become the smarter and culturally tolerant leaders of tomorrow's Peace Corps.



## FEATURES

# Seeking out support after trauma

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Though a trusted friend or family member can provide considerable support, meeting with a counselor and attending therapy sessions can be very useful tools that will help a victim handle the myriad feelings that a sexual assault brings.

A trained therapist can provide not only an opportunity for the survivor to speak about the trauma openly and uncensored, but he or she can also teach the survivor methods that will help facilitate an emotional recovery.

"The key element in a sexual assault is that someone took control away from you. It's that helplessness that can be so devastating," said Baum. "A lot of therapy is aimed toward regaining that sense of control."

This sense of control to which Baum refers can be anything from a small scale — confidently making everyday decisions — to the ability to make long-term life choices.

Baum also says that in sessions, the therapist may help the client consider her choices and feel comfortable standing up for herself and voicing her opinions, which may sometimes be difficult to do in the aftermath of the assault.

These methods alone are not what therapy sessions consist of entirely, but they are a sampling of what to expect in beginning sessions.

Therapy can also provide assistance in helping to sort out some of the ambiguity in sexual assault situations.

"Sometimes the survivor isn't really sure of what went on — there often are a lot of gray areas," said Kristin Sagun, a pre-doctoral intern at the Counseling Center.

Sagun emphasized that situations involving alcohol or drug use, acquaintance rape and situations where sexual intercourse has been consensual in the past are particularly unclear to the individuals involved.

The Counseling Center offers free, confidential services to full-time Hopkins Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Nursing and Peabody students.

There's also a 24/7 emergency contact line, through which an on-call counselor can always be reached.

The location couldn't be more



The Counseling Center, three floors up from Admissions in Garland, offers resources for assault victims.

MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

convenient — it's on the third floor of Garland. It is occasionally worrisome for some students who are afraid of running into an acquaintance in the waiting room.

But Baum says that this should not be a concern. Much of the student body

stops by the Counseling Center for one reason or another, so any classmate you encounter in the waiting room will not have any idea what your particular reason is.

Another option is to go to a therapist not connected to the University, though that is a matter of personal choice.

Even if a rape survivor is on the fence about getting help at the Counseling Center or another place, it's worth a one-time try, at least.

"We're not going to push you to do anything," Baum said. "You can come just once and decide whether or not you want to continue."

Overall, attending therapy for

assistance with handling the personal trauma caused by a sexual assault is what the individual makes of it. "Our goal is to make [clients] set and work towards their own goals," Baum said.

It should be noted that though women account for the majority of sexual assault victims, men can be victims of sexual assault too.

Men should not hesitate to get treatment and should not feel embarrassed to talk to someone at the Counseling Center.

"Men tend to seek help less," said Sagun. "The stereotypes related to being a man can prevent them from asking for help."

Another service that the Counseling Center has offered in the past and hopes to provide once again in the near future is a Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Assault therapy group.

In a group environment, survivors can share experiences with and learn from each other.

"[Being a survivor of a sexual assault] can affect academics, self-

esteem and other things — you don't always make those connections," said Baum. "Group therapy brings this out, and everyone can challenge these issues together."

Whether making use of individual or group therapy services, sexual assault survivors should not be afraid to speak up about their experience.

It may be tough to vocalize the situation — sometimes talking about something makes it feel more real, even though instinct may be to ignore it in hopes of it disappearing.

But it's tougher to keep such a heavy, emotionally charged situation bottled up.

This doesn't mean the survivor needs to tell everyone in his or her dorm or social circle. On the contrary, just choose one or two people with whom you feel most comfortable speaking.

Perhaps this will be a trusted friend, a peer at A Place To Talk (APTT), other sexual assault survivors at a group therapy or a professional counselor.

Regardless of whom you talk to, keep in mind what Baum said is the ultimate goal of seeking emotional help in the aftermath of a sexual assault.

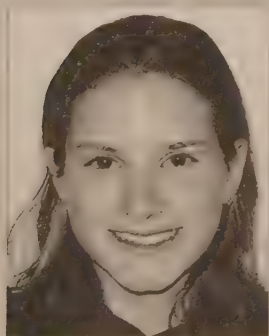
"Victims can feel isolated, blame themselves or feel damaged. We work to dispel those inaccurate conclusions and help them to feel more control over their lives," she said.

Our goal is to make [clients] set and work towards their own goals.

—DR. BARBARA BAUM, COUNSELING CENTER PSYCHOLOGIST

## HOT AT HOPKINS

You look smokin' in that firefighter costume you're going to wear while stumbling around Fell's Point. Be a lifesaver and share it with the rest of us. E-mail: [features@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:features@jhnewsletter.com)



**Name:** Jenna Rossoff  
**Year:** 2009  
**Major:** Chemistry  
**Hometown:** Morristown, N.J.

If the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, Jenna Rossoff should be beating potential suitors away with a rolling pin. This good-hearted gal shares her culinary skills with the less fortunate as a volunteer for the group Cooking 4 Love. If you'd like for her to share a little bit more than her way with the soufflé and flambé with you, just make sure not to mess with her peanut butter. Her weirdest habit is eating the smooth, nutty goodness straight from the jar. But, if you ask nicely, this adventurous lady admits to being a little bit tempted to incorporate peanut butter in a room other than the kitchen.

There's more to Jenna than her penchant for all things food. Her best qualities are her "biting sarcasm and witty wit," she said. So, in other words, she'll have you rolling on the floor with laughter before rolling around elsewhere.

It might be tough to catch up with this fast female — she has a tendency to be a speedy walker when heading off to class. But in other realms of life, she claims to be not nearly as quick. Perhaps inspired by this past summer's comedy about a guy holding out

for a painfully long time, Jenna says she would wait "40 years" after a date before trying to score. We'll see how long she sticks to that one when the right jar of Jif or Skippy comes along.

The right guy for Jenna would have to be able to tickle her funny bone, along with having a "genuine interest in conversation," she says. Guys with big egos need not apply — Jenna cannot stand "cocky, egotistical men." But guys with other large attributes are more than welcome, of course.

Jenna's a romantic at heart. Her ideal date involves her Prince Charming bringing her a bouquet of flowers before taking her on a "spontaneous and fun" date. "He would have had to put a lot of thought into an activity that would surprise me," she said.

Come on, boys. A hottie like Jenna is so worth the wait, even if it lasts multiple decades.



**Name:** Davis Anderson  
**Year:** 2007  
**Major:** Cognitive Science  
**Hometown:** Princeton, N.J.

A guy is quite the ladies' man when his best pickup line is, well, taking the object of his desire and literally picking her up in the air. Yup, Davis Anderson claims that he

will sweep a lady off her feet, in every sense of the word. If his use of chivalry isn't enough for you, then perhaps some other characteristics that this self-proclaimed "nice and easygoing" guy will get you all hot and bothered.

He's a rather debonair fellow who enjoys sailing and golfing, just like all those creepy old men at the country club, sweetums. To continue with the polo shirt-wearing, golf club carrying theme, Davis also requires that his lady has equally high-society tastes. His most intense turn-on is a girl with "classy taste in food, alcohol, travel, cars, jewelry, etc."

Perhaps this means that Davis will be providing diamonds and Ferraris for the object of his affection. If that's the case, he better start working those biceps more in preparation for the beauties coming his way, waiting to be picked up by this handsome charmer.

If you'd like to sneak a peek at this gem of a guy's family jewels, keep in mind that all of his ideal characteristics for a gal are on the superficial side. "It's just stupid to say you don't care about physical traits," he said. "[I prefer] long dark hair, dark eyes and a nice smile that she doesn't show off much."

Sounds like Davis is channeling his inner Dick Tracy and has a thing for girls with that whole seductive, mysterious look. So slip into a trench coat and flash anything but a smile to this dashing detective.

For his perfect date, Davis is all about the spontaneity. He likes to do "anything unplanned and unexpected," he said. "It can start in a bar, restaurant or café, but it should end up on a rooftop, under a stairway or in a swimming pool."

He doesn't want long to get wet (in the swimming pool, you pervert) with his date. "If the first date is fun, it won't be over until the next morning," he said.

# Dispelling the frat brother myth

This is the second installment of a series of articles dealing with sexual assault on college campuses.

It is intended to promote awareness of the issues surrounding sexual assault as well as shed new light on old myths and conceptions surrounding the issue. It will also provide resources on how to deal with assault should it occur.

Future articles will deal with a variety of other aspects of the issue.

Did you know that there is a stereotype on campus that male athletes and fraternity brothers are considered more of a threat to women than any other guys when it comes to sexual assault? I didn't.

For those of you out there who believe this stereotype to be true, consider a few things. First, you need to be careful no matter what you do or who you're with, because there are some sick people out there.

If you (women) took your sex drive and multiplied it by a thousand and then went to a school with a drought of guys, then you might be able to better comprehend the need for caution when you're dealing with all guys here at Hopkins.

Second, fraternity guys and athletes aren't all the same — not even close. Within one team, you can often find several different groups of guys.

You name it — some drinkers, some stoners, some academics, some meatheads — there are probably a few of each. You can't place these many different groups into one overriding category of "jock" or "frat boy." I'm not saying that all these guys are trustworthy either.

How could I? I don't know all of them. But to assume that they're dangerous because they play a sport or are in a fraternity is ridiculous.

Here's a test: On my team there's one guy who spends most of his time in the library, never drinks or does drugs, has a girlfriend of two years whom he talks to on the phone every day, and he's not in a fraternity.

Now there's also a guy on the team who drinks as much as he pos-

sibly can every day of the week, sleeps around whenever he gets the chance and is in a fraternity.

Neither of them has any previous history of sexual assault. With all this information, who do you think is more prone to sexually assault a woman?

The answer is that there's no way to know. You might assume Guy 2, because he drinks a lot and sleeps with almost anyone.

You might have said Guy 1, since he might have pent-up sexual energy from never seeing his girlfriend and spending most of his time crammed in a booth on B-Level. The truth is that neither is impossible.

So why is it that athletes and fraternity guys have this reputation? I don't really know for sure. I guess it could be that some guys who are rowdy partiers and big drinkers, or maybe because some of the guys sleep around.

Whatever the reason, I've never heard of an incident and most of my friends for the past four years have

been either athletes or fraternity brothers.

But if you're one of the people who believes this stereotype, you might want to rethink your reasoning.

The truth is that you can never know who's a threat, so you need to just do your best to be safe. How do you do that? Well, most of the girls I know travel in groups (even to the bathroom).

It sounds stupid, but it's important and, apparently, fun. It works out nicely for us guys, too, since fighting over the one girl at a Hopkins party gets old quickly.

Also, a simple suggestion is to try not to drink so much that you're going to do something you regret. Everyone knows that finishing that bottle of Cuervo might not always be the best idea.

Lots of girls say that guys take advantage of them when they're drunk, but most of the time we're just as drunk as you.

To assume that at the end of a night we're going to be the responsible one who says, "No, we've had too much to drink" is about as presumptuous as this stereotype.

## WIN RATES GUEST COLUMN

# The man purse goes mainstream

Metrosexuals proudly flaunt designer bags, pedis and more

A voice chirped from the rear of the elevator on the way to London Hilton's Window Bar. "Lovely bag," it said.

"Thank you," responded the addressee. "I had the Mulberry before this one, but it was far too small, and a tad casual for the office. Besides, these new Vuittons are perfect for anything — travel, or what have you."

"Hm. I'm always going with Prada — tried and true."

As I exited the lift, I couldn't help but look back at the two who'd carried on the aforementioned conversation. Both were gray-haired, smartly-dressed and most likely in their forties.

I would have thought nothing of the informal chatter had these two been women.

However, because this talk of bags — designers ones, nonetheless — came from two older, unquestionably heterosexual men — I simply had to pause and confirm what I and several friends had come to believe over the past year.

An invasion has occurred — the Invasion of the Man Purse.

I guess it all began with the onset of the term "metrosexual." With the widespread use of the word came the acceptance of this new type of man. No longer did guys who got facials and wore socks that matched their shirts receive the automatic homosexual classification.

"Straight gay men," as heterosexual men who some believed "acted gay" were once labeled, rejoiced worldwide. Never more would they have to worry about deterring women with their manicured nails and Italian footwear.

Once the metro existed, effeminate men merely had to claim the metrosexual identity and get on with their heterosexual lives — free from the public's accusatory glances.

However, upon leaving the eleva-

tor the other night, I couldn't help but wonder — has metrosexuality gone too far?

Anyone who knows me knows that I am the ultimate proponent of the metrosexual. That said, it does seem as though certain members of the clan seem to have taken this new



CARTER CRAMER  
HOP COUTURE

form of male to an androgynous, if not downright female, level.

This past year, and especially since arriving in Britain, I've observed a growing subculture of straight men who don't just partake in classic metrosexual activities — spa days and designer shopping — but seem to have wholeheartedly embraced the activities and styles of the female species.

For instance, I've found it quite commonplace to see men, often with their girlfriends or wives, cavorting around both American and European cities wearing jeans from the girls' department. Many will even admit to this reality, citing the optimal fit as their reasoning.

Furthermore, airports everywhere are swarming with male travelers toting Louis Vuitton or Ferragamo briefcases, with their

oversized Hermès carry-on in tow.

More shocking still are those metrosexuals who have taken to carrying women's handbags while out shopping. The other day I was browsing the racks at Harvey Nichols next to a guy carrying a white Balenciaga biker bag, an accessory never intended for a man's arm.

And, it goes without saying that men — especially those residing in cosmopolitan areas — are just as likely have their nails polished and hair dyed as are women these days.

But should it really come as a surprise that so many men have acquired the metrosexual identity? If seen in a purely pragmatic, realistic light, the spread of the metro among all ages of men seems only fitting in today's liberal society.

Life has become more complicated for the modern man than it was for his predecessors. The average guy no longer carries just a wallet to the office. Rather, men of today must schlep their laptops, day planners and palm pilots. And what better way to do it than by throwing everything into an attractive bag?

As women have always realized, and an increasing number of men have come to know, appearance is downright crucial. After all, neither women nor men find a disheveled, ill-groomed individual attractive, whether in business or romance.

Finally, so much of what the metrosexual practices in buying fine clothing and pampering himself rests upon the notion of "loving thyself," something members of this generation have been instructed to enthusiastically follow.

So, in truth, the gentlemen on the elevator discussing their man-purses should not have shocked me at all. They were merely products of today's gender-blurred society, where metrosexuality is a frequently uttered word, and the handbag is no longer just for women.



# 2006 Hullabaloo!

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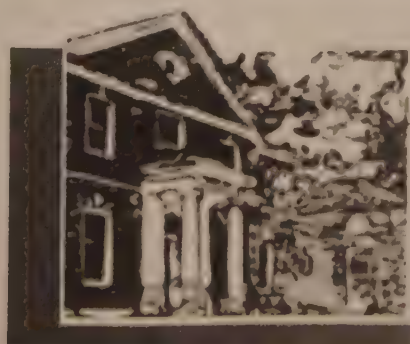
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Freshmen one-acts show promise

Precocious new students take on The Barnstormers' annual freshman performance

BY ELLIS SINGER

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

For a first taste of theater at Hopkins, the Freshman One Acts often prove to be an interesting and, for the most part, rewarding experience. The five-part amalgamation of pieces of varying depth, humor and power flowed relatively smoothly, forming a showcase that boasted powerful new actors and directors in the Hopkins drama scene.

It should be noted that the Freshmen One Acts are entirely freshman-run. Several of the major responsibilities of each year's program — from behind-the-scenes dynamics such as stage setup and lighting to the individual acting performances for each piece — fall to first-year students. Only upperclassmen, however, are eligible to produce or direct in this Barnstormers showcase.

Any upperclassman can apply to direct a show. They have to submit a play and include how many people are in it, stage set-up and lighting (all of the technical details) to the Barnstormers board. The board then decides which plays to run. They choose the plays so that about 20 freshmen are involved in the entire production.

Like the other five productions that the Barnstormers stage each year, the Freshmen One-Acts draw on a range of published plays — each independently presented by Hopkins students. Though the first selection, writer David Lohrey's "A Newark Minute," was a series of somewhat awkward vignettes, each concerning over-hassled, over-blown traveler Mr. Conklin (Ersin Akinci) waiting in line at Newark Airport, the piece opened the showcase well. The story began somewhat slowly with a monotonous but bearable scene of incredible potential between actresses Ashley Kennedy and Charlotte Chen. From there, Lohrey's piece moved on to expand but never really develop the plot.

Jessica Popkin never completely eased into the free-spirited *Hola*, a sorry fact which heavily contrasted with the surprisingly comfortable Mike Willis and Laura Gordon as the dynamically raunchy Stampino couple. And yes, Laura, we all wish we had your lines. Though the audience seemed to enjoy "A Newark Minute" on its own, it served the showcase better as an opener, which prepared the crowd for pieces to come.

Perhaps the most bizarre piece of the set, "What She Found There" by John Glore, was excellently executed by Sarah Feinmark (Celia) and Chris Viemeister (Lou). This contorted *Alice in Wonderland* entry rang with perversities and psychological blunders, all well implemented. Though each actor had minor flaws in his or her performance, both managed to hold the rhythm of the production through a prop malfunction and unexpected first-night laughter.



Freshman Ersin Akinci, as weary traveler Mr. Conklin, and Jessica Popk perform in "A Newark Minute."

Sarah Feinmark had a professional edge to her presentation, which at times isolated her from the setting and her co-actor, but it also allowed her to make it effortlessly through tongue twisting lines and perverse double entendres. Both Feinmark and Viemeister had a wonderful sensitivity to their respective monologues and overall the dimensions of the piece were carried well.

The third piece, the dating comedy "Check, Please" by Jonathan Rand, was by far the funniest and most enjoyable in the showcase. Sean DiStefano was both witty and charismatic in his portrayal of "Guy," and Molly Schindler was unmemorable but adequate as "Girl." The dates themselves showed an incredible range of talent, the highlights being the semi-violent, self-obsessed Louis (Prasanna Chandrasekhar), the compulsively planning Mary (Aparna Desai) and Anna Ciuffo's kleptomaniac and mime.

Ciuffo's excellent use of physical humor shows great promise for productions to come. The only fault of the piece seemed to be the uncomfortable ending between DiStefano and Schindler, since neither seemed to know what to do but squirm in the saccharine last scene.

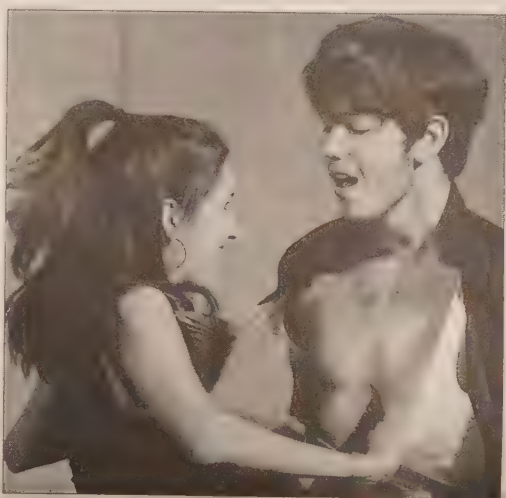
Though there was no grand, poignant moral in this part of the show, "Check, Please" was successful at everything a freshman showcase piece should be, a sampling of the various talents of this year's freshman class.

In sharp contrast to the light, irreverent feel of the preceding piece, David Mamet's "The Blue Hour" took the showcase in a darker direction. Though a beautiful and complex piece on its own, this profound

work felt rough and out of place in a freshman showcase.

There was clearly a great deal of craftsmanship and time that went into the piece, but overall it fell short because of a disconnect with the audience, who anticipated a series of comedic vignettes and were either greatly disappointed or confused by Mamet's bleak, flat images of the city. "The Blue Hour's" duo of actors, Bill Fuller and Scott Morse, made a noble attempt at reacting to their respective characters but struggled with the implied depth of the piece through no fault of their own.

Though Morse slightly overshadowed Fuller in his part, while Fuller compensated by over-articulating his lines, the chemistry between them suggested that the two actors would have been better suited to a more typical (or perhaps just less experimental) dramatic piece. "The Blue Hour" could have been carried — and carried well — in any other type of showcase, but for something as blithe and comically-based as the freshmen one-acts, it felt overly ambitious. That being said, the performances, specifically Morse's, reflected the great deal of talent in the freshman class.



Freshmen actors Laur Gordon and Mike Willis play the dynamically raunchy Stampino couple.

The final piece, "Two Shakes," unfortunately spent the first minutes recovering from the audience's reaction to the previous play, but it progressed well after its rocky start with a wonderful interaction between the hilariously angry Ray (Kevin Uy) and the exasperated Alena (Geffner-Mihlsten).

The twisting story along with the easy feeling between the actors and the wonderful comedic timing wove the peace into a perfect ending for the showcase. All the actors, including the wonderfully timed appearance of a troop of waiters, presented the piece with a sense of rhythm and chemistry, which ended the showcase on a bright note. All in all, the freshmen one-acts showed a great amount of talent — specifically comedic talent — and promise for shows to come.

## Theater senior to stage a solo show

BY JOSEPH MICALI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Last Saturday, the *News-Letter* had the chance to sit down with senior Noah Stanzione, who is performing his final project for the Homewood Arts Certificate this weekend. This award recognizes consistency and continuous contribution to the betterment of arts at Hopkins — in this case, acting.

Stanzione's production of *Barrymore's Ghost* is a one-night-only event, coming to the Arellano Theater this Saturday. Stanzione will be playing the ghost of 1930s stage and screen actor John Barrymore. Did I mention it's free?

Stanzione began his career precociously in fifth grade, as Grimwig in the dramatic version of *Oliver Twist*. He has been committed to acting since. Here, he's performed with the Barnstormers and Witness Theater (you might have just seen him in *The Underpants*), and will be in the next DBH production.

Outside of Hopkins, Stanzione has been a regular in Baltimore community theater, whether performing *Bicycle Country* with the Mob Town Players or taking part in the 24-hour theater experiment with Company 13. Lastly, he has taken roles at other colleges in the Baltimore area, including the role of Paris in the nearby University of Notre Dame's production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

However, in my interview, I did not simply inquire about Stanzione's resume. I wanted to know what was at the heart of the actor. I asked him, "Why act?" He began by saying the best thing about acting is that it's "the one opportunity we have to lose all our inhibitions, to become something that we most certainly aren't."

Stanzione believes the best roles to have are the out-there, larger-than-life characters, because they dwell inside all of us — and pardon the cheese — but inside our imaginations. In any role, whether it be a

lead or just a bit-part, you "always learn something as an actor," not just about acting, but also about yourself.

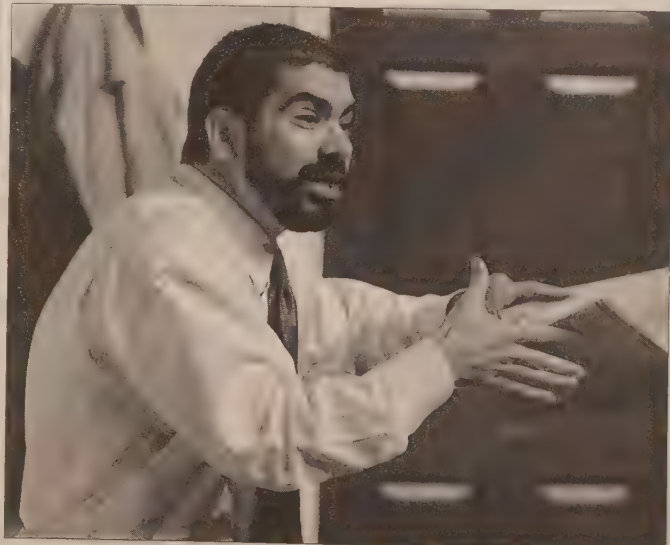
I also questioned him on the topic of Hopkins theater. He dove right into the acting classes taught by John Astin and Loren Dunn. Stanzione prefaced this by saying he is probably the most vocal student critic of Astin. While Astin teaches a style of acting known as presentation acting, popularized by Konstantin Stanislavski and Sanford Meisner, Stanzione follows Mamet's belief that the script is all you need to know.

Stanzione also feels that the acting program promotes the idea that you need to become an actor. Acting has always been the strongest hobby in his life, an escape from academia, but it will never be more. He wants the art of acting to enrich his life but never control it. Stanzione is pragmatic: "Why waste a Hopkins education?" In fact, Stanzione is graduating this winter, a semester early, and plans to prepare for law school back in New Jersey.

Though Stanzione is quite critical of Hopkins theater, he still believes there is hope. For him, the student-managed theater groups, though they occasionally run into problems, are the best means for promoting and spreading theater at Hopkins. Stanzione has had some great experiences and put on some great shows in his three and a half years here at JHU.

And now it's your chance, Hopkins community. Let theater enrich your life, and start by coming to see Stanzione's final project this Saturday. As he puts it: "You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll be happy because you saved some money and saw a great show."

"Barrymore's Ghost," a one-man drama written by acclaimed playwright Jason Miller will be performed by senior Noah Stanzione this Saturday, Oct. 29 only at Levering Hall's Arellano Theater at 8 p.m.



Noah Stanzione, a senior at Hopkins, will present *Barrymore's Ghost*.

## Clap Your Hands rocks the 8x10 Club

BY LAUREN HILL

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Coming to Baltimore on a tidal wave of Internet hype, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, a Brooklyn-based five-piece whose playful debut has charmed the hearts of many listeners and has gained them overnight success similar to that of The Arcade Fire.

Some see them as heroes of independent music, having sold 20,000 copies of their self-recorded, self-released album. But beyond such trappings, they have produced a truly creative and unique album that translated very well to the stage.

Almost true to its name, the 8x10 Club (the former Funk Box) served as an intimate venue. A dim light bathed eager fans as well as the openers, The Black Angels, who up on their pedestal seemed like golden and comatose gods of psychedelic rock. With songs gliding in and out of each other like one never-ending composition, it took a while to realize that several identical songs had actually been played.

Attempting to recreate an era that they are all too young to remember, the Austin band describes its music as some sort of journey through hell

with Nico. The group's Web site requests that the listener, "turn on, tune in, drone out." Drone out? Well, they were easy to tune out.

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah set an altogether different mood, gaining speed quickly with "The Skin of My Yellow Country Teeth." With its recognizable synthesizer intro and trembling Verlaine-esque guitar, the song immediately took on an anthemic presence.

While their urgency in Alec Ounsworth's oddly appealing, yodeling, muppet-like vocals (which have been compared to those of David Byrne of Talking Heads) seemed fitting for a climax, there was much to come.

The set quavered in emotion, weaving in and out of euphoria and then feeding into more anguished songs such as "Details of the War," with guitar gently skimming over

cantering drums and the glowing buzz of the synthesizer and reaching its height in melancholy harmonica and Ounsworth's cracking vocals.

Charged through the entire album, the performance's highlights included the gleaming pop song "This Home on Ice" and the bluesy "Gimme Some Salt," during which Ounsworth's voice became comically garbled, even less intelligible than in the recording.

"Upon This Tidal Wave of Young Blood" brought an interesting mix of dance-like whimsy and politically charged lyrics: "We are men who stay alive / Who send your children away now / We are calling from a tower / Expressing what must be / Everyone's opinion."

As concertgoers were bathed in the warmth of the 80s synths and lilting guitars, the giddiness spread

through the crowd to the point where the floor seemed spring-loaded. Keyboardist Robbie Guertin seemed even happier to be there than the fans, jumping as he pounded away at the keyboard. Playfully scooting around the stage plinking his guitar and wagging his head, Ounsworth would periodically break into a momentary uncontrollable smile. It's doubtful that a single person didn't leave the concert feeling just a little bit happier.

While Clap Your Hands Say Yeah owes its overnight success to loads of online buzz, its publicity is not undeserved. With a tasteful tiger rug, named "Toby or Pete," that they won from The National in poker as a backdrop, CYHSY could not be taken too seriously. But that was not the point.

The show was not about any sort of pretense. Looking at the band on stage, they did not come off as particularly cool. They were just some guys who wrote some really great songs, shared them, and it turned out that a bunch of people really liked them. This is music for the sake of music.

For information on upcoming shows at the 8x10, visit <http://www.eightbytenclub.com>. For ticket reservations, call (410) 625-2000.



Bassist Tyler Sargent of Clap Your Hands Say Yeah plays the 8x10 club.



# Showy opera *Traviata* displeases

Despite inspired flourishes, the Baltimore Opera’s production lacks musical force

BY SASHA KOZLOV  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Though the trip to my seat at the Lyric Opera House — home of the Baltimore Opera Company — was similar to the journey of tooth-paste through a dried tip, it was oddly satisfying as I squeezed my way through an eager mass of anxious yet slow-moving, glitzed-out sophisticates on Saturday night. The beautiful hall, ornately embellished with gold and bronze, was full to the brim, vibrating with excitement.

The audience buzzed, prepared to hear Giuseppe Verdi’s *La Traviata*. The libretto, written by Francesco Maria Piave, is set in and around 1850s Paris. In the story, the courtesan Violetta Valery, suffering from consumption, sacrifices her affair with the man she truly loves to salvage his relationship with his family. She and her true love — Alfredo Germont — are briefly reunited, moments before her death.

Shortly after an enthusiastic “Star Spangled Banner” (the ultimate marriage between any opera’s stage and audience), the curtains rose, exposing a wall rising from the floor, fully tiled with mirrors. The massive structure stopped tilting upwards at a 45-degree angle, granting the audience the ability to see what was going on everywhere on-and off-stage.

Due to the mirror-vision phantoms moving about immediately over the performer’s heads, it was often difficult to know where to focus one’s attention.

If at first the audience may have raised its brows, suspicious of the giant mirror acting as an acoustical aid to brighten up a muffled hall, all brows dropped with the first sounds from the singers — they hardly carried to where I was sitting in the



Elena Kelessidi (Violetta) and Ned Barth (Germont) in the Baltimore Opera Company’s *La Traviata*.

parquet.

The opera commenced with a shaky Overture, through which the audience frequently noticed the conductor, Maestro Julius Rudel, loosening his reigns, allowing the orchestra to separate. Fortunately, he did have a clearly structured musical idea that kept the rest together enough to reach a certain level of professionalism in performance, while keeping the audience sitting uneasily in their seats for all the wrong reasons.

Act I is set at a party in the home of Violetta Valery, where she is introduced to Alfredo Germont, with whom she falls in love instantly after he confesses an undying passion for her. However, the first act comes to a close with her resolve to stay a

“free woman,” indulging in all of life’s pleasures. Having been introduced to Violetta’s capricious character in the first act, it does not come as a shock to see that she changed her mind yet again by the next set, and moved in with Alfredo in the suburbs of Paris, just three months later.

Giovanni Germont, Alfredo’s father, then appears on the scene, accusing Violetta of ruining his son’s life in order to support her truth. Still, Violetta decides to leave for the sake of the happiness of her lover’s family but does not reveal the true reason why she agrees in the note she writes to Alfredo. When he sees his estranged Violetta at a party in Paris later that night, she lies to him, telling him that she

is in love with someone else and securing an immediate end to their relationship.

His fury, however, drives him to viciously throw a wad of money at her so as to pay her off for her supposed services. Violetta’s health worsens as a result of her anxiety over her harsh separation from Alfredo, and she lies dying from consumption in the final act, when news comes of Alfredo’s return. But now, he knows the truth about her motives for abandoning him. Violetta dies in her lover’s arms in the last moments of the opera, singing her last words ever so sweetly: “What joy.”

Despite her serpentine and seductive movements, the beautiful soprano, Elena Kelessidi failed to impress the audience with her voice. She had an incredibly precise tone that owned the highest and lowest of pitches she sang, but it was not nearly as thick and juicy as what her role as Violetta Valery called for — and simultaneously not as crisp or delicate as my ears would have liked for her to be.

Yes, she sang expressively; at times she was even able to grab the audience by the throat, forcing us to suffer with her. Kelessidi’s incredible presence on stage overpowered the rest of the singers entirely, only rivaled by the noble presence of baritone Ned Barth as Giovanni.

From the moment Barth presented himself on stage, his imposing stance demanded respect and full attention. What followed was a rich, viscous tone that filled the hall, beating all acoustical obstacles with which it was faced. Where he lacked significantly in expressive variety, he made up in presence and conviction, holding a strong, rarely emotional character, without which the production would have appeared to be an overly pansy, weak-plotted melodrama.

If there was any truly dissatisfying element of this production of *La Traviata*, it was tenor Marcus McConico’s performance as Alfredo Germont. In addition to his blatant vocal deficiencies (the delicate-voiced soprano covered him the entire time), the man lacked in musicality and a basic enthusiasm.

He proclaimed undying love for Violetta in the same phlegmatic manner as (according to the English translations of the libretto broadcasted above the stage) he expressed his rage at his father, and as he greeted others on stage.

McConico’s metallic, whiny voice kept the music sagging as he sang with a dynamic range of a possible mezzo forte to a forced forte-and-a-half. The man didn’t even care to follow (or lead) the conductor or pay attention to others singing with him, causing the timing of the music to become heavy and stagnant. Fortunately, the impressively costumed chorus was able to support McConico when they were available and on stage.

Though baritone Barth did receive a spirited standing ovation for his performance on Saturday, the audience did not pretend to be thrilled with the rest. Still, the experience of going to a live opera production to see so many musicians and artists come together and create beauty never fails to generate a plethora of ideas and opinions, undoubtedly spurring significant internal growth.

# New Vibrations

The Fiery Furnaces  
*Rehearsing My Choir*  
Rough Trade  
October 25, 2005



The Fiery Furnaces have always challenged their listeners. Like a neglected stepchild, their music demands attention and consideration. It often takes unexpectedly bipolar turns, toeing the line between harmony and cacophony before turning around and retreating to the realm of intelligibility.

So when the group recently released their fourth full-length, *Rehearsing My Choir*, it was expected that they would take their reputation for experimentation to a new level. In essence, the album is an hour-long narrative concerning the life of the Friedbergers’ grandmother, Olga Sarantos, who lends her unique voice to every track. It is primarily an amalgamation of connected anecdotes, recited rather than sung. Stories include that of a crazy aunt, a doctor moonlighting as a donut maker and a bishop unhealthily obsessed with Robert Mitchum.

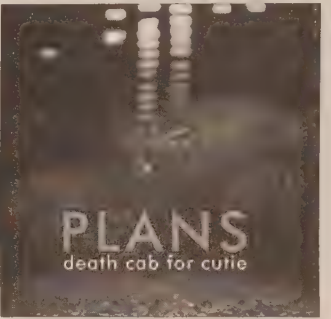
Upon first listen, the album seems buried under awkwardly placed synthetic melodies and other electronic accompaniment. It seems like the duo is just trying to flaunt their off-beatness without actually producing anything of recognizable quality or ingenuity. Yet there’s always an implicit challenge in The Fiery Furnaces’ music. It takes a third or fourth listen for the

album’s true colors to shine through. Though heavily poeticized and, at times, hard to follow, Grandma Olga’s story entices the listener and pulls him along. Attempting to decipher Olga’s smoky, Chicago-accented words and the siblings’ alliterative tendencies is both interesting and fun. Each song suggests a unique time and place. With tangible and sensory lyrics, the locales they evoke range from bustling prewar Chicago to the pine forests of Canada.

Unforgettable hooks — central to the success of the group’s past albums — aren’t present on *Rehearsing My Choir*. Only on a few tracks, including “Slavin’ Away” and “4823 22nd Street,” exhibit the same kind of catchiness found on previous hits like “Tropical Ice-Land.” With their newest release, The Fiery Furnaces have created an album of heavily synthesized and instrumentalized mini-epics that ultimately come together to form something notable. They have once again pushed the limits of convention, proving that they transcend classification.

—Ben Kallman

Death Cab for Cutie  
*Plans*  
Atlantic/Wea  
August 30, 2005



Ben Gibbard is an over-anxious neurotic. He was made for the over-stimulated anxiety-stricken youth of today, and Death Cab for Cutie have gone out of their way to make rock especially beautiful. Gibbard sets overly thought-out lyrics into gorgeous arching melodies. Everything seems to pull you toward comfort and envelope you in it.

The problem with this desire for an intense sentimentality is a little apparent in the production of the first songs on *Plans*. The vocals are very sweet and melodious, even when surrounded by loud guitars and drums. You wish they would take risks once in a while, but then “Different Names For The Same Thing” kicks in, sounding like it was recorded on a broken tape machine. The subtle echo on Gibbard’s vocals has a mesmerizing effect. This is the problem with Death Cab for Cutie’s overall aim. The package is meant for popular culture, which usually has a problem understanding subtlety. So even while they do not deserve to be snubbed just because they are Seth Cohen’s favorite band, there is something lacking that only a fine taste could ask for.

The main theme of this record is Gibbard’s fascination with death and the metaphysical. Gibbard declares boldly, “Love is watching someone die, so who’s gonna watch me die?” at the end of “What Sarah Said”, which he follows up with, “If there’s no one

beside you when your soul departs, then I’ll follow you into the dark.” It seems like Gibbard’s anxiety is centered on this theme. Gibbard has a knack for making lines so cerebral that his very clumsiness makes them appealing.

The bottom line is that the melodies are more than interesting. The music is first rate. The instrumentation is rich, the drumming is very original and the bass lines always contribute something unique. The bass line to “Summer Skin” is as complicated as it gets in pop music; it is all over the place in the most flattering way possible. It would have been very easy for Death Cab for Cutie to rest on their growing popularity and “sell out” in the indie cooler-than-thou world. There is no evidence that the band did this at all. Death Cab for Cutie might be picking up where Coldplay left off as the melancholic college kid rock kings and taking over as the primary source for songs with melody on modern radio, but this group will be actually be remembered for their music, which is something that cannot be said about most bands mentioned in TV shows.

—Adam Lempel

Animal Collective  
*Feels*  
Fat Cat  
October 18, 2005



Animal Collective, originally childhood friends from Baltimore, bring us a jewel of an album that is a departure from the group’s previous work. Known for their reductionist ambient music, the group delivers an album with tracks that take on a more songlike structure but retain the same delicate crafting and holistic quality.

The journey begins with “Did You See the Words,” as the giggles of children open to a canter through gleaming guitar and piano. The next track, “Grass,” feels like a romp through a meadow with jig-like drums, birds in the background and the intermittent shrieks of Avey Tare. After “Purple Bottle,” a song of similar energy, the mood tones down with “Bees.” A tinny, melancholy harp echoes amongst cavernous chants.

“Banshee Beat,” follows with sustained chords that are characteristic of the group’s previous work. This solitary dream culminates in “Lock Raven,” which is like a music box lullaby with a repeating key-

board line layered over soothing whispered gibberish. “Turn Into Something,” closes with one final frolic appropriate for a carnival merry-go-round and fades into a numbing mesh of sound.

Like past Animal Collective albums, *Feels* is a complete work with an energy that resonates through you and remains with you. This work presents life through the ecstatic eyes of a child — a whirlwind of emotions like loneliness and insecurity, with the textures and playfulness of fancy-free summer days. After a thorough listening you feel as if you have just manically spun in circles and have fallen down onto the soft ground, the world slowly coming into focus. Animal Collective has created yet another album of rare creativity, volatile energy and startling beauty.

—Lauren Hill

# O’Brien discusses art of writing

BY SOPHIE KORN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

I had just settled into my seat in the Shafner Auditorium in Bloomberg when we were asked to all move forward. A man in a navy blue suit explained, “Mrs. O’Brien prefers reading in a more intimate setting.”

With its physics equations all over the blackboard behind the podium and its three hundred-person capacity, the auditorium was anything but intimate. But the room was quite full of students, many of them there no doubt due to diligent IFP TAs and professors alike.

But intimate was what Edna O’Brien managed to make her reading. She began by telling a charming story about seeing her publisher and forgetting to ask if it would be OK if she read from her yet-to-be-released novel. At 74, with bright red hair and a winning smile, it felt like the audience was more than willing to forgive her forgetfulness.

Phillip Roth has called her, “the most gifted woman writing in English.” Hopkins Professor Steve Dixon said that, “She is the foremost Irish fiction writer.”

O’Brien has received many literary awards, including the Kingsley Amis Award for Fiction, the Yorkshire Post Novel Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the Writers’ Guild Prize for Fiction, a lifetime achievement award from Irish PEN, honors from the American Academy of Achievement, the National Arts Gold Medal and many others. She is an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and is author of more than 20 books, including a very well respected profile of the author James Joyce. In addition to these larger projects, she has also created numerous short stories and plays.

Professor Alice McDermott introduced O’Brien by saying, “[I] cannot do justice [to O’Brien’s talent because her] language makes itself heard, the images endure and the story triumphs.”

She read from her most recent book, *Twilight*, which will be out in what she called the “proverbial nine months.” *Twilight* is about a relationship between a mother and a daughter and is a novel in five parts. She read for only 25 minutes, but it was mesmerizing for the duration.



Author Edna O’Brien hosted an intimate reading on Tuesday night.

Read aloud, her language was truly incredible — soft echoing sounds played in the huge auditorium: “... such a lonely evening sound to it, like the lonely evening sound of the mothers saying, ‘It is not our fault, it is nature’s fault, nature who makes us so full and then so empty.’”

O’Brien said that her new novel is about “attachment and suffocation” and “what happens in family.” This is a bit of a departure from her early books, which dealt with relationships between men and women and often with religion and sex — causing six of her first novels to be banned in her native Ireland.

In the question and answer session after the reading, what she called “her time to just talk” with her audience, she was remarkably candid. When asked how she prepares herself for writing, she answered with a laugh, “Suffering.” But, she added, “The thing that helps to write is to read something amazing... [and] we mustn’t rule out experience.”

Her thoughts about writing were remarkably astute. For O’Brien, writing is “like manna in the desert, even when scatological, [writing is] holy.” Towards the end of the reading she said, “writ-

ing is something, I suppose that’s in the blood, but I’m certain it’s in the obsession.”

O’Brien was unbelievably versed in classic and current literature; when asked about her relationship to the *New Yorker*, where she was often published, she said, “I like it, but times change. Their choices of fiction are different now, as indeed the world is very different. A lot of writing, in my humble and not so humble, opinion isn’t up to scratch.”

She described good writing as having an intensity about it, “a great poem encapsulates a whole life or a whole emotion.” Although O’Brien sometimes had trouble hearing questions, she had no trouble relating complex answers in extremely approachable ways.

In response to audience questions, she quoted from Sartre (“To read a book is to write it.”), Kafka (“Writing is an act of criminality.”) and many other luminaries. Throughout the reading, O’Brien showed herself to be a truly great mind and wit, even at her advanced age.

When asked to reflect on her career, she kept her response simple: “I love writers, and I love writing, and without it I’d be much poorer.”



# An uplifting Oscar gamble

## Niki Caro's North Country confronts sexual harassment issues

BY PATRICK KENNEDY  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

For a relatively fresh director like Niki Caro, *North Country* is an impressive piece of work. But in the mold of most of the burgeoning social statements that this Oscar season is promising. The film is bursting at the seams with flights of melodrama that could have been hacked away without making much of a difference. Rooted in Caro's adapted account of the first class action sexual harassment suit, filed by a group of female workers at the Eveleth Mines in Minnesota, *North Country* bends its premise in about every direction possible. There isn't quite the tough-girl empowerment nonsense that one would expect, but because it is most meaningful as a down-to-earth run-through of workplace realities, the script's courtroom theatrics and sexual intricacies are rather excessive.

Yet, perhaps the most superfluous touch, right as the opening credits roll over the Minnesota badlands, is the film's introductory disclaimer: "inspired by a true story." I would be surprised if anyone could mistake *North Country*, an archetypal tale of knock-down, lift-up American nerve, as a true-to-form account. Somewhere in the noble message-making is buried the far less photogenic story of the real Eveleth women, who, after suffering all manner of crude gags and sexual advances, forced their employer to adopt anti-harassment regulations in 1989. Nevertheless, I would be equally surprised to find anyone dismissing outright a piece of universally heartfelt storytelling as this outright.

It would be almost too simple to rail against Caro's new film as another Academy Award vehicle (which it definitely is) for leading lady Charlize Theron and the able supporting players who surround her. Since her breakout role in 2003's *Monster*, it appears that the South African actress has fallen into her dramatic niche — assertive, lonely,

silently victimized women, each programmed to put an individual face on a well-chosen societal ill. This time we find Theron as Josie Aimes, a small-town beauty recently escaped from an abusive marriage and trying to build a new life for her two children (Thomas Curtis and Ella Peterson). Unwilling to rely on her parents (Richard Jenkins and Sissy Spacek) for help and eager to move past her problems, she finds work in a nearby mine. With her new job, she finds a new spin on the kind of degradation she has been trying to evade.

In Josie's workplace, which boasts more tough talk, sexual graffiti and crude jokes than your aver-

tended as the perfect *Erin Brockovich* moment for the regally gorgeous Theron, whose role is a highly uneasy combination of sexual allure and soccer mom niceties. That is, when she isn't emoting against the powers that be. However, that doesn't stop several of the background performances from stealing scenes. For anyone who has a hard time following Theron's gamut of emotions, Frances McDormand's humble, smartly sweet turns as Josie's old friend and co-worker, Glory — equipped with the same over-pleasant accent you heard in *Fargo* — is a welcome delight. As might be Spacek's gushing familial warmth, or the steely pride that Jenkins brings to the table in the fourth quarter of this mammoth entertainment.

This film was made to be huddled under the same tear-jerker umbrella as *Seabiscuit* and *Cinderella Man* — another ever so slightly Miller-esque tale of American tragedy and moral redemption. When simply exposing the culture of degradation that compounds Josie's sexual and domestic trouble, *North Country* gets everything nightmarishly right. The big problem though is that after creating such a fearsomely believable portrait of sexual aggression placed amid deafening machines and mining belt industrial filth, Caro doesn't quite know where to take her viewers. So we go to the courtroom and watch Josie's lawyer (and love interest, big-city divorcee, and former small-time hockey star) Bill White (Woody Harrelson) stick it to the corporate cronies who sanctioned her ritual humiliation. Scenarios like this have a funny way of playing: You're not sure whether you would like to get back to the more credible drama, or start applauding when the inspiration starts to roll and the bad guys start to fall.

But at least there is one person who has lent his talents to *North Country* who knows how to mix expansive political statement and indignation with quiet, subtle reflections on the realities of our country.

*North Country's* will to be an obvious, inspiring movie may have counteracted its desire to be a great movie.

age boy prep school, the best way for a female employee to survive is either to keep her mouth shut or keep her guard up. These such restrictions strike a much deeper chord with Caro's heroine. Exasperated by the indifference of her manager (James Cada) and unnerved by the sly advances of one of her co-workers (Jeremy Renner), Josie raises what would seem like justified complaints — that is, justified to people who have been weaned on women's rights. While her protest, which eventually carries her to the Eveleth company headquarters, grows louder, the men of the mine grow ever crueler. As for Josie's female counterparts, they are simply too scared to put their jobs and reputations on the line.

*North Country* was probably in-



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYMOVIE.COM](http://www.northcountrymovie.com)

Actress Charlize Theron stars in Caro's problematic account of sexual discrimination in rural Minnesota.

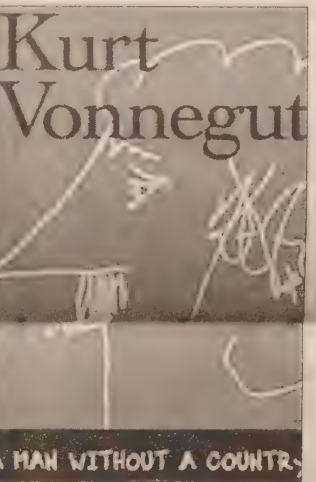
That would be Bob Dylan, whose songs can be heard playing over Caro's shots of his home state — the perpetual snow, the heavy rock-ripping equipment and the shame and shamefulness huddled inside such typical-looking houses. *North Country's* will to be an obvious, inspiring movie may have counteracted its desire to be a great movie. And maybe, with the first battles against gender discrimination and workplace exploitation years in the past, there are national ills that trouble us much more profoundly today.

Yet there is an essential moral to cinematic eviscerations of society like this, and while I am not the first critic to articulate it, this is supremely relevant here. Regardless of treatment and even form, some events carry such great humane and social meaning that any depiction cannot help but capture their essence. That is why *North Country*, even though it comes within an inch or two of burying itself, genuinely floods the theater you are sitting in with outrage, sympathy, and occasionally, appreciation.

### NORTH COUNTRY

**Director:** Niki Caro  
**Starring:** Charlize Theron, Woody Harrelson, Frances McDormand, Sean Bean, Sissy Spacek, Richard Jenkins, Jeremy Renner  
**Run Time:** 2 hours, 6 minutes  
**Rating:** R  
**Showing at:** The Charles Theatre, AWC Towson Commons, Regal East Point Movies

## Vonnegut's latest wildly incisive



Kurt Vonnegut  
*A Man Without A Country*  
Seven Stories Press  
192 Pages  
September 15, 2005

BY HEATHER BARBAKOFF  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Apparently, once upon a time, Kurt Vonnegut promised he'd never write another book. Luckily for us, the promise was broken and the

public received 150 pages of Vonnegut goodness. Jam-packed with his own artwork in addition to his literary wisdom, *A Man Without A Country* is an amusing read.

"This book is about congenitally defective human beings of a sort that is making this whole country and many other parts of the planet go completely haywire nowadays." Beautiful, isn't it? Vonnegut summarizes his entire book on page 100. Sweet. And it only gets better. It echoes a long, ranting blog entry from your best friend. A thousand different topics are touched upon, in no particular order; everything from childhood memories to a discussion on how fossil fuels are the world's most addictive drug.

It might seem confusing, but when Vonnegut's lyrical gait takes you exactly where he wants to you go, you follow - No questions asked. He changes topics quickly and frequently: Nothing's safe. Vonnegut discusses his dislike for modern technology, President Bush and his feeling about what makes good creative writing (excluding the use of a semicolon). He details his daily routines, talks about people he admires. Vonnegut's book is his commentary about how the world he was born into isn't the world we're living in now; what has changed (a lot) and what hasn't (not much); whether it is getting better (fat chance) or worse (more on target).

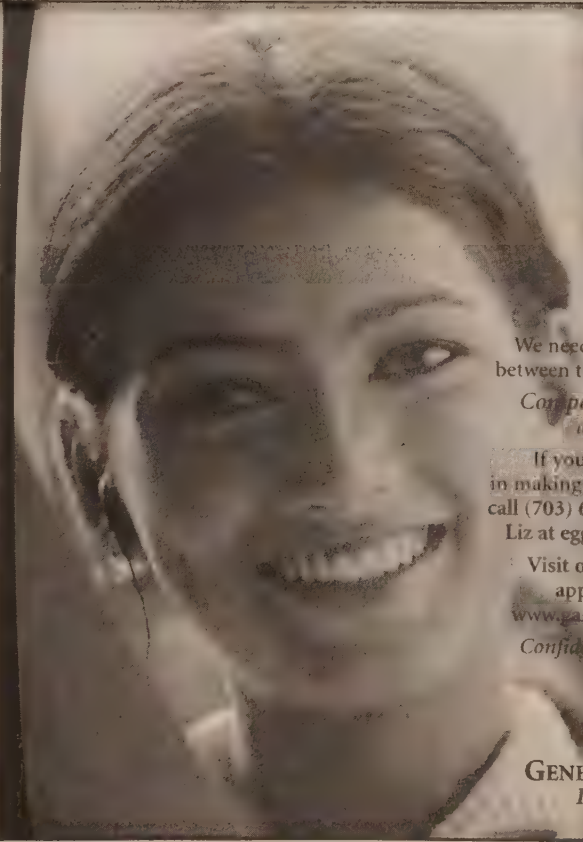
The book is amusing, but it is also extremely versatile. One can read it straight through or savor the various idiosyncrasies and attitudes of the author over extended periods time. It can be read chronologically or out of order, depending on your mood. Each chapter can stand on its own as a testament to his ability to draw the reader in for one, tiny, specific moment and make it resonate.

After reading this book you will feel not only that you understand the author, but you have had insight into his heart, his mind, his very being. You made a friend who can sit down and tell it to you straight. Whether you agree or disagree with what he says is moot - what matters is that you don't read this book. You experience it. You sit down and you have one of the greatest literary minds of our time tell you something he deems important. And because he's telling it to you, you're important. Share how it made you feel, how it changed your mind, how its dark cynical tone was pregnant with humor. You will have a new outlook, a new perspective so that you and the person you shared *A Man Without a Country* with can sit down and go on the wild ride again.

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# CARTOONS, ETC.

## your Horoscope



**ARIES: (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)**  
Sexual predators are never fun, so ladies, keep some pepper spray on hand and practice perfecting the angle of your ball-kicking move.



**TAURUS: (APRIL 20-MAY 20)**  
Assault your senses by doing the following: light a candle, put on some Kelly Clarkson and drink till it's tomorrow. It will be a wonderful night.



**GEMINI: (MAY 21-JUNE 20)**  
Is it true that when you step on the Gilman seal, you will fail to graduate in four years? No. Actually, it just means that you'll die in a bear attack.



**CANCER: (JUNE 21-JULY 22)**  
Never say never, unless the question is, "When would you like to come over and watch that video about the German waxing arts?"



**LEO: (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)**  
Funny thing about life is, it really never turns out how you expect it to. That is why when the government steals your identity, it hurts.



**VIRGO: (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)**  
Unless you are planning to make a career out of not wearing pants and singing songs from "Rent" real loud, you might want to get a real skill.



**LIBRA: (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)**  
It may make you sad that autumn is being ruined by this soggy weather, but just think about all the opportunities there are for impromptu mud-wrestling!



**SCORPIO: (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)**  
"Involves heavy lifting." "Risk of Head Injury." "Man-eating Dinosaurs Likely." "Pained, awkward silences." Your friends give out the worst party invitations.



**SAGITTARIUS: (NOVEMBER 22 - DEC. 21)**  
A few minutes after a satisfying perusal of the News-Letter from cover to cover, you may find yourself incredibly stimulated. Don't worry — the paper is absorbent.



**CAPRICORN: (DEC. 23 - JANUARY 19)**  
Rod Stewart had a career highlight with a tune that asked repeatedly, like a high-strung egomaniac with a memory problem, whether you found him attractive.



**AQUARIUS: (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)**  
Stewart is the last name of the sexiest man on the face of the earth, and you are going to win a date with him. That's right — Charles Stewart of Flint, Mich., loves you.



**PISCES: (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)**  
Song is a beautiful gift that has been graced upon humankind, but if you do not stop crooning those rousing renditions of "Crazy 4 U," God might take it back.

## JHU Jumble

by Ann Renee Angiulo



LAST WEEK'S ANSWER: QUATRO SINKOI

HINNT

ELAPC

YCRSA

IIVTS

## Master of Arts

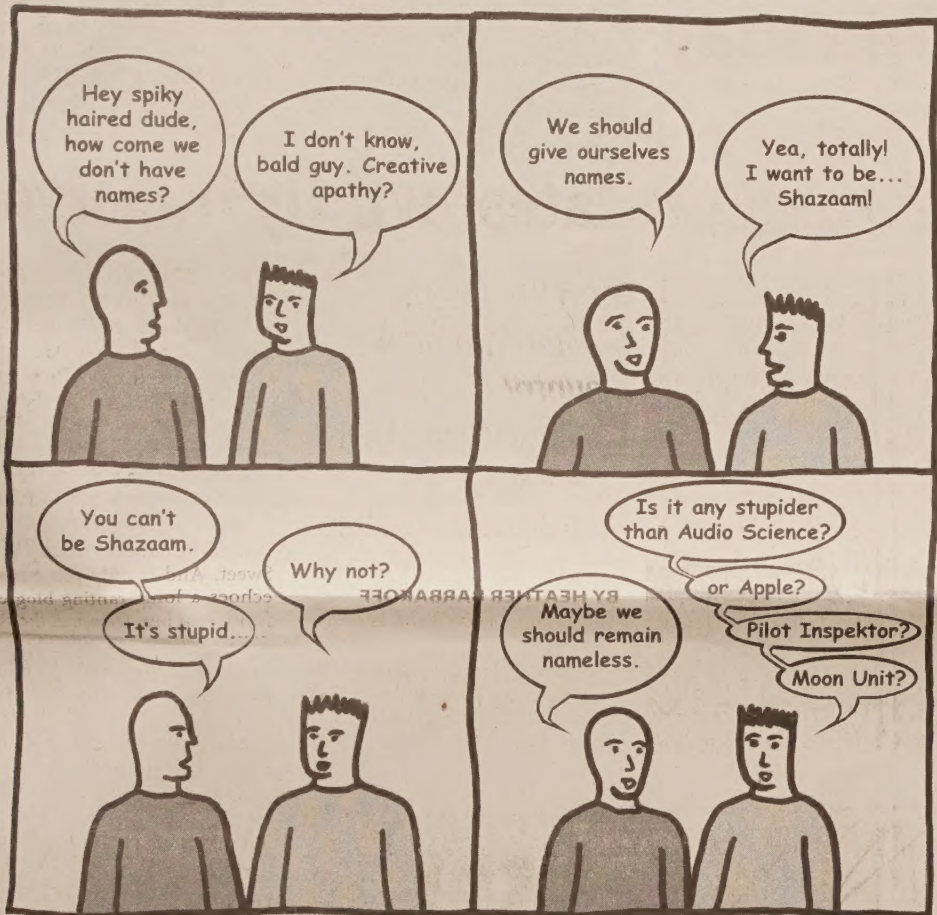
by Michael Specian



Illustrated by Lynn Carlson

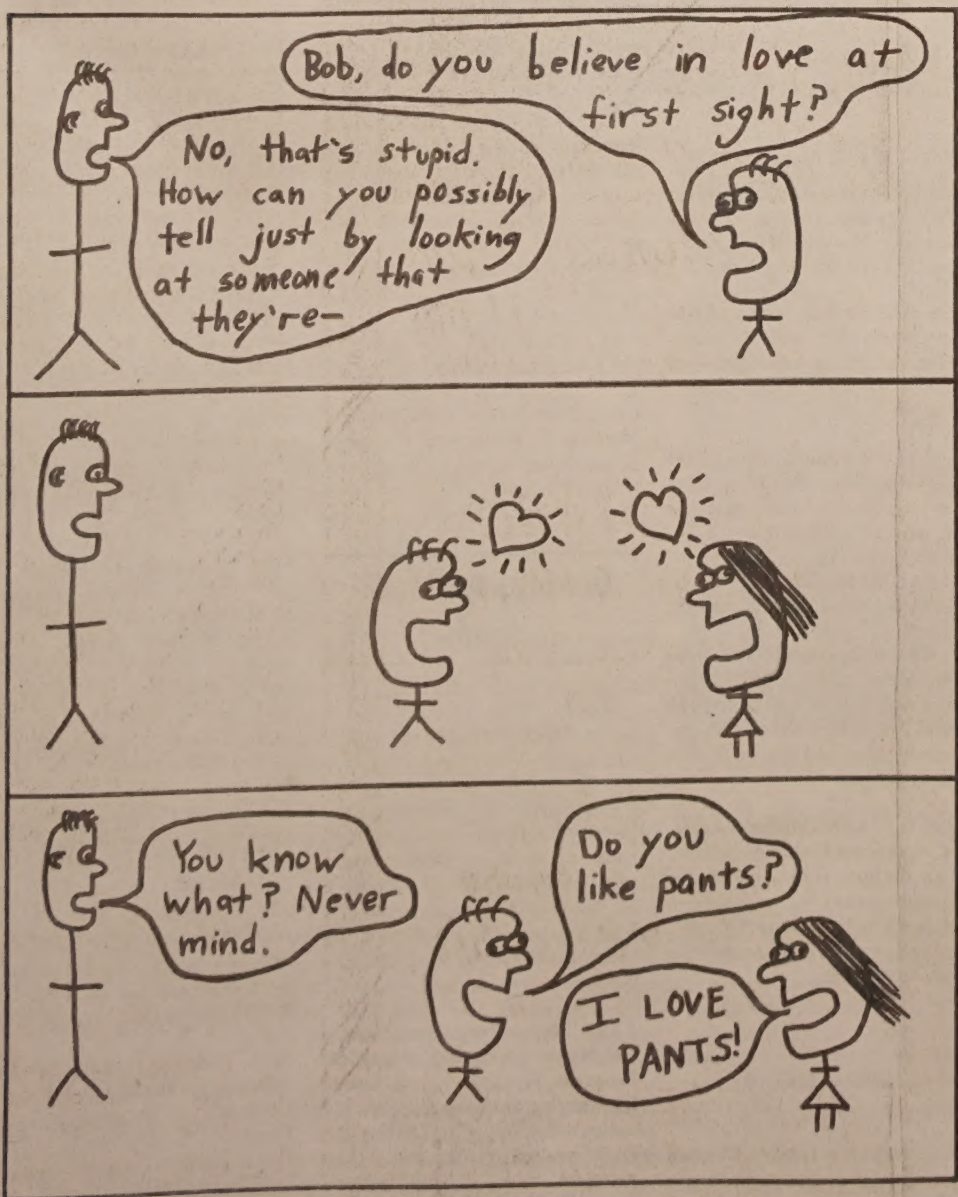
## Slapdash

by Ann Renee Angiulo



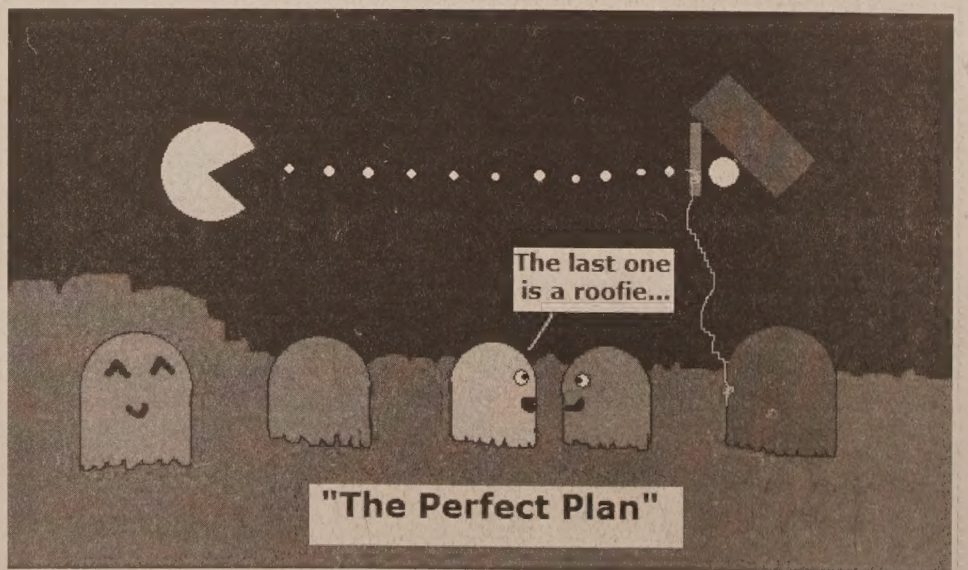
## Tweezer & Bob

by Matt Diamond



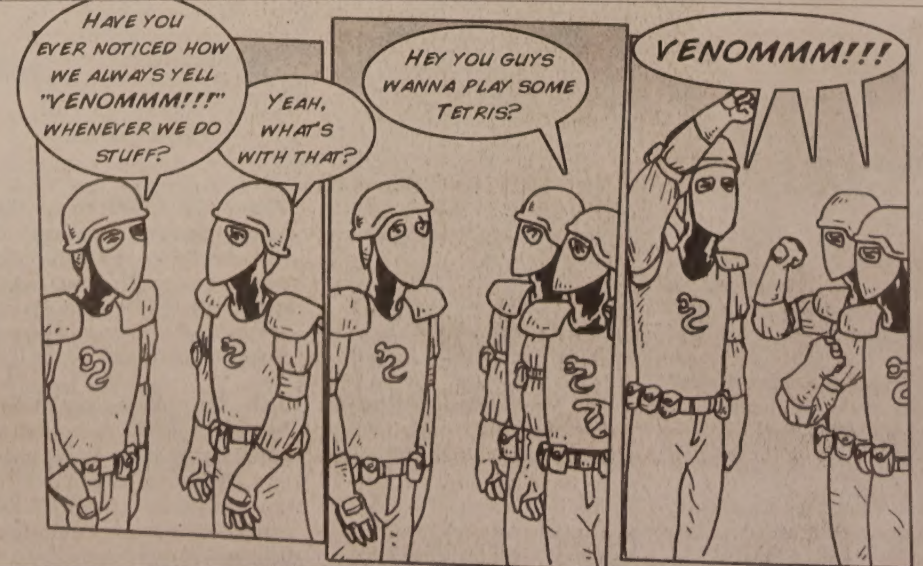
## Wasted Ink

by Nate Min



## V.E.N.O.M.

by William Parschalk





CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS

Buttered Niblets perform on Friday

The Buttered Niblets present their show this Friday, Oct. 28 in the Arellano Theater (under the Glass Pavilion). Doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$1 each, but the group promises a night of ridiculous fun.

The Buttered Niblets, known for their hilarious inter-act skits during the O Show, remain Hopkins' only improv and sketch comedy group. Their style can be best described as basic, short-form improv comedy much like the popular television show *Whose Line is it Anyway?* Through the course of their show, they play tons of different games and create scenarios based on suggestions from the audience.

Over the past few years, the group has been trying to incorporate a long-form version of improv into their shows. What this means is that rather than basing the scene on one shout-out from an audience member, the group will take a number of suggestions from which they will design characters and situations that may reappear throughout the entirety of the show. The Niblets acknowledge this as a more challenging and risky form of improv, but they truly enjoy it and are getting better at it.

The group has been a presence on campus for a number of years. Past members include Hopkins' own Dan Ahdoot (known for making it to NBC's hit show *Last Comic Standing* and recent show openings for Lewis Black, Jay Mohr and Dave Chappelle) and Ryan Kidwell, perhaps better known as musician Cex. This year, the group has added two new members who will give their debut Niblets performance in Friday's show. This show promises to have audience members falling over from laughter and will certainly present a good time not to be missed.

—Anuhsa Golpalratnam



The Iron Man himself, Ghostface Killah aka Tony Starks, brings some Wu-Tang "shaolin" flavor to Sonar.

Ghostface brings an iron mic with him to Sonar this Thursday

Ghostface Killah from The Wu Tang Clan will be making an appearance at Sonar on Oct. 27.

Killa-bee Ghostface is a savage veteran rapper with a vicious style. Like the other members of The Wu Tang Clan, he used his hip-hop career with the group as a launching pad into a career of solo stardom. In 95, Ghostface Killah received rave reviews for his work in Raekwon's (also a Wu member) *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx*. He also fired up tracks in other albums like *Sunset Park*, and the *Don't Be a Menace Soundtrack*.

This early recognition set off

high expectations from critics everywhere for *Ironman*. Like all Wu projects, the album was produced by RZA under Razor Sharp Records, and it recieved strong reviews.

In 2000, *Supreme Clientele* was released and was quickly followed up by *Bulletproof Wallets*. The second album, despite its hardcore title, did not sell because it was not up to par in displaying deeper issues in society. Since then Ghostface Killah has been working on mixtapes, as well as working with other artists including Jada Kiss, Missy Elliot and underground super-villain MF Doom. In 2004, *The Pretty Tony Album* hit the streets to

much acclaim.

Musically, Ghostface Killah is passionate, intense and powerful. He gets into his lyrics, his movements start defining his words and he blurs the edges between reality and fiction (in his lyrics). He is known for his ballads and messages within them, as with many underground artists. His ballads, however, have a different composition, and he includes many textures in his work by the on-and-off engagement of other Wu members in his tracks. Don't miss out on this one!

—Priyanka Randeria

RAB hosts first Midnight Masquerade in six years in Baltimore's Inner Harbor

After a six-year hiatus, the Resident Advisory Board is once again hosting Midnight Masquerade, a cruise of the Inner Harbor open to Freshmen and Sophomores that will be held this Friday night, Oct. 28, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets cost \$20 and are available until the night of in front of Wolman Station and Terrace, as well as from RA's and members of the RAB.

The requested attire is semi-formal, meaning no t-shirts, sweats, or jeans. A mask is not required, but encouraged. The free shuttle service will leave from in front of MSE around 10 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. to transport students to the Inner Harbor, and will bring the students back at 2 a.m.

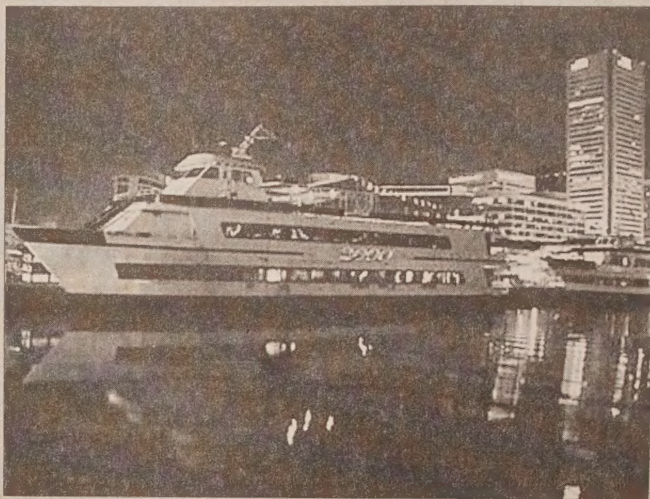
The RAB has rented out the whole ship, the *Lady Baltimore*, for the event, and will have two decks open to students, as well as the top deck. The bottom two decks will each have two professional dj's and students are more than welcome to dance the night away. Students looking for a more intimate setting can stroll along the top deck, which is open in order to get a picturesque take of the Baltimore skyline.

The *Lady Baltimore* has been a staple of Inner Harbor attractions for several years now. Both enclosed decks are fully heated and air conditioned, and can accommodate up to 450 guests. The ship is equipped with plentiful seating and a spacious dance floor aimed at offering something for all of their guests.

Midnight Masquerade was an annual event hosted by the RAB for ten years, until it was discontinued in 1999. After continuous requests over the past three years, the RAB has brought it back. Depending on the success of this year's event, it may become an annual tradition once more. The RAB hopes students take advantage of this opportunity to get a more scenic view of Baltimore, as well as enjoy the ship's offerings at a lower price than normal.

Students are encouraged to consult their RA if they have more questions, or consult the RAB's website at <http://www.jhu.edu/~rab>.

—William Parschalk



Sail away with the Midnight Masquerade this Friday night, Oct. 28.

Religious Services

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2

7 p.m. Buddhist meditation will be practiced at the Interfaith Center.

THURSDAY, OCT. 27

12 p.m. **Lutheran Discussion Group** will meet in Levering. For more information call Rev. Don Burggraf at (410) 235-2356.

5 p.m. **A Divine Liturgy and Dinner** for Eastern Orthodox students will be held at the Interfaith Center.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist Bible study** will take place at the University Baptist Church.

9 p.m. **Unitarian Universalist Services** with Dr. Larry Egbert will be held at the Interfaith Center Library.

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

1:15 p.m. **Jumah prayers** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jhumso> for more information.

8 p.m. **Seventh Day Adventist** services with Fredrick Russell will be held at the Interfaith Center.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29

Time TBA, **Shabbat Dinner** at the Interfaith center; for more information and updated times visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jsa>.

SUNDAY, OCT. 30

11 a.m. **Catholic Mass** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.catholic.jhu.edu> for more information.

11 a.m. **Aarthi** will be held at the Interfaith Center, lower level. For more information, e-mail [HSC@jhu.edu](mailto:HSC@jhu.edu).

2 p.m. **Stepping Stones Ministry** will hold services in Shaffer 3, followed by a fellowship meeting at 3:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist service and contemporary worship** will take place at the University Baptist Church.

8 p.m. **The Graduate Christian Fellowship** will have its weekly meeting in the Marylander Apartments in the London Room. For more information about the meeting, e-mail [Bmac@jhu.edu](mailto:Bmac@jhu.edu).

Performing Arts

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

8 p.m. Come see comedy improv with the **Buttered Niblets** at Arellano Theater in Levering Hall. This event costs \$1.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29

7:30 p.m. **Opera Potpourri: The Miracle of Mozart** will take place at the Peabody Institute in the Friedberg Hall. This is a free event.

8 p.m. **Barrymore's Ghost** will be performed in Arellano in Levering Hall. This is a free event. For more information call (410) 516-2224.

SUNDAY, OCT. 30

2 p.m. **Prepatory Young Person's String Program** will take place at the Peabody Institute in the Friedberg Hall. This is a free event.

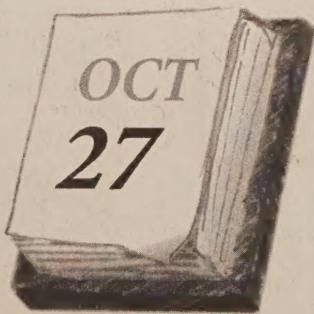
MONDAY, OCT. 31

7:30 p.m. **The Peabody Singers** will perform at the Peabody Institute in Griswold Hall. Tickets range in cost from \$8-18.

THURSDAY, NOV. 3

8 p.m. See the **Upright Citizen's Brigade Comedy Troupe** at Shriver Hall. This event is free with college ID. For more information call Rachel Heimann at (410) 516-0333 or e-mail her at [reh@jhu.edu](mailto:reh@jhu.edu). Also visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~hillel>.

CALENDAR



OCT. 27 TO NOV. 3

Miscellaneous Events

THURSDAY, OCT. 27

5 p.m. **A Diabetes Dinner at Rocky Run** with 10% of all sales going to support the American Diabetes Association. This event is being sponsored by Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity. For more information contact Javier Russo or Militza Machuca at [jrusso10@jhu.edu](mailto:jrusso10@jhu.edu) or [militzamachuca@jhu.edu](mailto:militzamachuca@jhu.edu).

6 p.m. There will be an **SAC General Meeting** in Mattin 162. For more information contact Alice Li at [sacexec@jhu.edu](mailto:sacexec@jhu.edu).

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

4:30 p.m. The **JHSPH Happy Hour** will take place in the Bloomberg building in East Baltimore in the first floor student lounge. This free event is sponsored by The Insoluble Fraction and the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Social Group.

5 p.m. **The National Aquarium in Baltimore** offers a discounted admission of \$5 every Friday after 5 p.m. The discounted admission is a great deal, so don't pass it up! Even if you have been to the aquarium before, head down to check out the

new dolphin show. For more information, including hours of operation, group discounts and directions, call (410) 567-3845.

7 p.m. **The Scream Movie Marathon** will take place at the Hop Stop. For more information contact Savithri Raja at (410) 516-8209 or at [savithri@jhu.edu](mailto:savithri@jhu.edu).

8 p.m. **The Maryland Space Grant Observatory** located in Bloomberg offers you a free chance to look at the solar system with its telescopes, weather permitting. Call (410) 516-6525 for updates and observing conditions before heading to Bloomberg.

10 p.m. **Coffee Grounds** takes place every Friday night in the Mattin Center Silk Road Cafe. Come out for the free Krispy Kreme doughnuts and coffee, and stay for the fun evening activity.

10 p.m. **The RAB Midnight Masquerade Cruise** around Baltimore will take place in the Inner Harbour. Buses for this event leave at 9:30 p.m. and transportation is included in the \$20 ticket cost. For more information visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~rab>.

MONDAY, OCT. 31

7 p.m. **Inter-Fraternity Council Meeting** will happen in Shriver in the Board room. For more informa-

tion call Robert Turning at (410) 516-2224 or e-mail [greeklife@jhu.edu](mailto:greeklife@jhu.edu).

9 p.m. **Monday Night Football** will be shown at the HopStop. This is a free event and will last until midnight.

TUESDAY, NOV. 1

6:30 p.m. **Free Massages** will be given at the HopStop every Tuesday. For more information call Savithri Raja at (410) 516-8209 or e-mail [savithri@jhu.edu](mailto:savithri@jhu.edu).

7 p.m. **The Panhellenic Council Meeting** will take place in the Mattin Center 210. For more information contact Ali Rickards at (410) 516-2224 or e-mail [ajr484@aol.com](mailto:ajr484@aol.com).

7:30 p.m. **The Student Council General Meeting** will take place in the Shriver Hall Board Room. For more information contact Samantha Shepard at [stuco@jhu.edu](mailto:stuco@jhu.edu) or visit <http://web.jhu.edu/studentprograms/involvement>.

THURSDAY, NOV. 3

6 p.m. There will be a **SAC General Meeting** in Mattin 162. For more information contact Alice Li at [sacexec@jhu.edu](mailto:sacexec@jhu.edu).

Lectures and Workshops

THURSDAY, OCT. 27

3:30 Omar Knio, professor at the Mechanical Engineering department will speak on **Development and Applications of Reactive Multilayers** in Hodson, room 210. This is a free event sponsored by Mechanical Engineering Department.

4 p.m. **Responsive Materials from De Novo Designed Peptides: Progress Towards Novel Tissue Engineering Scaffolds** is the title of a lecture to be given by Joel P. Schneider, Ph.D., associate professor at the department of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of Delaware.

4 p.m. **The Seventh Annual Alan J. Goldman Lecture: Scheduling an Air Taxi Service** will be held at Maryland Hall, room 110. George Nemhauser, Ph.D., A. Russell Chandler III Chair and Institute Professor, School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology will speak at this free event.

6 p.m. Gulru Cakmak will lecture on **Camille Pissaro and French Landscape Painting** at the BMA garden room. This free event is sponsored by the Humanities Center.

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

11 a.m. **CEAFM Seminar** with Dr. Mathew Wells, Ph.D., professor at Yale, will take place in Maryland 110. This free event is sponsored by CEAFM at JHU. For more information contact Rob LeBlanc at (410) 516-0463.

2 p.m. **The APL Colloquium presents Pakistan: Between Mosque, Military and Nuclear Weapons** with Ambassador Husain Haqqani. This free event will take place in the Applied Physics Laboratory in the Parsons Auditorium and is sponsored by the Carenegie Endowment for International Peace and APL Colloquium. For more information contact Laura Mercer at (443) 778-5625.

3 p.m. Saikiran Rapaka of JHU will give a lecture on **Renormalized Numerical Simulation of Flow in Porous Media**. This free event will take place in Latrobe Hall room 107 and is sponsored by Mechanical Engineering at JHU. For more information call Deana Santoni-Long at (410) 516-6451.

3:30 p.m. **The Stress in a Non-Uniform Suspension of Heavy Particles** will be discussed by Quan Zhang of JHU. This free event will take place in Latrobe Hall room 107 and is sponsored by Mechanical Engineering at JHU. For more information call Deana Santoni-Long at (410) 516-6451.

4 p.m. **Tudor and Stuart Club Talk: "Changing Into an Animal: Joyce's Ulysses"** will be given by Maud Ellman of the University of Notre Dame. This free event will take place in Gilman 323 and is sponsored by the English Dept at JHU. For more



CALENDAR

CONCERT AND MOVIE LISTINGS

<p><b>THURSDAY, OCT. 27</b></p> <p>9 p.m. <b>The Slackers, Captain of Industry and guests TBA</b> will play at the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p>8 p.m. <b>Ghostface Killah, Swollen Members and Tru Life</b> will play Sonar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sonarbaltimore.com">http://www.sonarbaltimore.com</a>.</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>People Chasing People and the Monorail</b> will perform at the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p> <p><b>FRIDAY, OCT. 28</b></p> <p>8 p.m. <b>Black Label Society and Brand New Sin</b> will play at Sonar. The Taxlo Indie Dance Party will follow. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sonarbaltimore.com">http://www.sonarbaltimore.com</a>.</p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Kylesa, Coliseum, Torche and Triac</b> will perform at the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, OCT. 29</b></p> <p>8 p.m. <b>Sonar's Three-Year Anniversary and Halloween Costume Party</b> will happen at Sonar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sonarbaltimore.com">http://www.sonarbaltimore.com</a>.</p> <p>8 p.m. <b>Peanut Butter Wolf, Tommy Ryan and DJ Mills</b> will play the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p>	<p>9:30 p.m. <b>The Medications, Wilderness (from Baltimore) and Cinemechanica</b> will play the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY, OCT. 30</b></p> <p>7 p.m. <b>Matisyahu and Pigeon John</b> will perform at the Recher Theatre in Towson. For more information visit <a href="http://www.rechertheatre.com">http://www.rechertheatre.com</a>.</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Four Letter Lies and the Nervous Return</b> will play the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p> <p><b>MONDAY, OCT. 31</b></p> <p>7 p.m. <b>An Evening with the Bridge</b> will take place at the Funk Box. For more information visit <a href="http://www.thefunkbox.com">http://www.thefunkbox.com</a>.</p> <p>8 p.m. <b>The Halloween Bash with Juliette and the Licks</b> will happen at the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p>8 p.m. <b>Avenged Sevenfold, Saosin, Opiate for the Masses and Death by Stereo</b> will play Sonar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sonarbaltimore.com">http://www.sonarbaltimore.com</a>.</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Nitro Tokyo and Brand New Disaster</b> will play the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY, NOV. 1</b></p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Two for Tuesdays with DJ's Matt Walter and Craig Boarman</b> will happen at the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Milemarker and Fin Fang Room</b> will play the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2</b></p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Vaux, The Letters Organize, Boy Crazy and Zella Mayzel</b> will play the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>The Standard and the Kingsbury Manx</b> will play the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p> <p>9 p.m. <b>DJ SS &amp; Influx</b> will perform at Sonar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sonarbaltimore.com">http://www.sonarbaltimore.com</a>.</p> <p><b>THURSDAY, NOV. 3</b></p> <p>9 p.m. <b>Gogol Bordello, Throw Rag and the Scotch Greens</b> will play at the Ottobar. For more information visit <a href="http://www.theottobar.com">http://www.theottobar.com</a>.</p> <p>8:30 p.m. <b>Butch Walker and Damone</b> will perform at the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. For more information visit <a href="http://www.blackcatdc.com">http://www.blackcatdc.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>SHOWTIMES FOR THE CHARLES THEATRE FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY</b></p> <p><b>Revivals</b> Saturdays at 12 p.m. Mondays at 7 p.m. Thursdays at 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Eyes Without a Face</b> Thursday, Oct. 27</p> <p><b>The Black Cat</b> Saturday, Oct. 29 Monday, Oct. 31 Thursday, Nov. 3</p> <p><b>Wallace and Gromit: Curse of the Were-Rabbit</b> Rated (F) — 1 hr. 25 min. 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:15 p.m.</p> <p><b>Everything is Illuminated</b> Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 42 min. 2 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Good Night, And Good Luck</b> Rated (PG) — 1 hr. 33 min. 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Seperate Lies</b> Rated (R) - 1 hr. 27 min. 2:15 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:15 p.m.</p> <p><b>North Country</b> Rated (R) - 2 hrs. 6 min. 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:45 p.m.</p>
	<p><b>SHOWTIMES FOR THE AMC TOWSON COMMONS 8 FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY</b></p> <p><b>Domino</b> Rated (R) — 2 hrs. 4:25 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 9:55 p.m.</p> <p><b>Flightplan</b> Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 33 min. 4:40 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wallace &amp; Gromit</b> Rated (G) — 1 hr. 34 min. 5:10 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 9:50 p.m.</p> <p><b>The Fog</b> Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 35 min 5 p.m., 7:50 p.m., 10:15 p.m.</p> <p><b>Doom</b> Rated (R) — 1 hr. 40 min. 4:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 10 p.m.</p> <p><b>Elizabethtown</b> Rated (PG-13) — 2hrs. 18 min. 4:20 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>North Country</b> Rated (R) — 2 hrs. 3 min. 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10:05 p.m.</p> <p><b>Stay</b> Rated (R) - 1 hr. 35 min. 4:50 p.m., 10:10 p.m.</p>		

<p>information call (410) 516-4313.</p> <p><b>MONDAY, OCT. 31</b></p> <p>12:15 p.m. <b>Genes, Proteins and Parkinson's Disease</b> will be discussed by Ted Dawson of JHMI. This free event will take place at 3520 San Martin Drive and is sponsored by the Carnegie Institution.</p> <p>4 p.m. Andrej Zlatos of the University of Wisconsin will give a lecture on "Diffusion and Mixing in Fluid Flow." This free event will take place in Krieger 308 and is sponsored by Analysis.</p> <p>4 p.m. <b>Is the Cortex a Digital Computer?</b> is the title of a lecture to be given by Dana Ballard of the University of California. This free event will take place in Krieger 338 and is sponsored by the Krieger Mind/Brain Institute.</p> <p>4 p.m. <b>Seth Schwartz</b> will give a seminar TBA with <b>Gerson D. Cohen</b>, professor of rabbinic culture and history, the Jewish Theological Seminary at Columbia University. This free event will take place in Gilman 315.</p> <p>5 p.m. <b>A Poetry Reading featuring Breyten Breytenbach</b> will take place at Homewood campus. This is a free event sponsored by the Humanities Center. For more information call Marva Phillip at (410) 516-7619.</p> <p>5:15 p.m. <b>Nietzsche's Curses</b> will</p>	<p>be discussed by Manfred Schneider, Ph.D., the visiting Max Kade Professor at the University of Virginia. This free event will take place in Gilman 328 and is sponsored by the Department of German. For more information call (410) 516-7508.</p> <p><b>TUESDAY, NOV. 1</b></p> <p>8 a.m. <b>The DLC Diversity Conference</b> with Dr. Valerie Petit Wilson of the Leadership Alliance will take place in the Glass Pavilion. This free event is sponsored by Johns Hopkins Institutions Diversity Leadership Council. For more information contact Nicole L. Beverly at <a href="mailto:diversityconvergence@jhu.edu">diversityconvergence@jhu.edu</a>.</p> <p>4 p.m. Yuri Tschinkel of the Mathematisches Institut Göttingen in Germany will speak on "Geometry Over Finite Fields." This free event will take place in Krieger 308 and is sponsored by the Department of Mathematics.</p> <p>4 p.m. <b>Global Dimming: A New Estimate</b> will be discussed by V. Ramanathan of Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of California, San Diego. This free event will take place in the Olin Auditorium and is sponsored by the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences.</p> <p>4:15 p.m. <b>Photochemical Generation of Compound I and its Relations</b> will be discussed by Professor Martin Newcomb of the University of Illinois. This free event will take</p>	<p>place in Remsen 233 and is sponsored by Dr. David Goldberg of the Department of Chemistry. For more information call Rosalie Elder at (410) 516-7432.</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2</b></p> <p>2:30 p.m. <b>APL Colloquium — Warfighting in the 21st Century</b> will be given by Thomas Barnett, Ph.D., author and strategic planner. This free event will take place in the Applied Physics Laboratory in the Parsons Auditorium and is sponsored by APL Colloquium at JHU. For more information call Laura Mercer at (443) 778-5625.</p> <p>4 p.m. Professor of Health, Behavior and Society Carl Latkin will hold <b>Preventive Medicine/Public Health Grand Rounds</b> at Sheldon Hall in Bloomberg Building on 615 N. Wolfe Street, East Baltimore Campus. For more information call Yolander Dosey at (410) 955-3540.</p> <p>5:15 p.m. "Il Cappello Di Don Rodrigo: Maschere E Identita nei Promessi Sposi" will be given by Professor Fabio Finotti of the Italian University of Trieste. This free event will take place in Gilman room 223 and is sponsored by the Dept. of Romance Languages &amp; Literatures at JHU.</p> <p>8 p.m. "Polling and Politics" will be held in Shriver Hall in the Auditorium. This free event is sponsored by the 2005 MSE Symposium.</p> <p><b>THURSDAY, NOV. 3</b></p> <p>12 p.m. <b>Mattin Art Munch: Making the Most of Your Travel Photographs</b> will be hosted by Jay Van Rensselaer, B.A. and director of JHU Homewood Photo Services. This free event will be held in Suite 226 in the Mattin Center.</p> <p>2 p.m. Yuri Tschinke, Professor Mathematisches Institut Göttingen, Germany, will speak on "Arithmetic Over Function Fields." This free event will be held in Krieger 302 and is sponsored by Algebraic &amp; Complex Geometry and Number Theory.</p> <p>3 p.m. <b>The Bell Lecture — Review of Experimental Techniques For High Rate Deformation and Shock Studies</b> will be given by John Field of the University of Cambridge. This free event will take place in Hodson 210 and is sponsored by the Department of Mechanical Engineering. For more information contact Deana Santoni-Long at (410) 516-6451.</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Peter Goldreich of the California Institute of Technology and the Institute for Advanced Study will speak on <b>Planet Formation</b>. This free event will be held in the Bloomberg Center's Schafer Auditorium and is sponsored by Physics and Astronomy.</p> <p>4 p.m. "African American Musicians as Artists, Critics and Activists" will be given by Dr. Eric Porter, professor of American Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.</p>	<p>This free event will be held in the Sherwood Room in Levering Hall.</p> <p>6 p.m. <b>Pre-Health Junior/Senior Medical School Application Meeting</b> will take place in Hodson 110. This free event is sponsored by pre-professional programs.</p> <p>— Compiled by John Lichtefeld and Stephanie Yu</p>	<p><b>Got an Event?</b></p> <p><i>In order to have the event make it into next week's calendar, please e-mail all events by the Monday before publication. Send details including date, time, location, a brief summary of the event and contact information to <a href="mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu">News.Letter@jhu.edu</a>.</i></p>
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EXPOSURE

By MARK MEHLINGER



NIGHTLIFE

CLUBS

9:30 Club, 815 V St., NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 393-0930  
Baja Beach Club, 55 Market Pl., (410) 727-0468  
Bohagers, 701 S. Eden St., (410) 563-7220  
Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 667-7960  
Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., (410) 522-0784  
Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., (410) 332-4200  
Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., (410) 276-9085  
Club 2314, 2314 Boston St., (410) 276-9556  
DeGroen's Grill, 104 Albemarle St., (410) 837-5000  
Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., (410) 558-1889  
Hal Daddy's, 4119 E. Lombard St., (410) 342-3239  
Harry's, 1200 N. Charles St., (410) 685-2828  
Hammerjacks, 316 Guilford Ave., (410) 234-0044  
Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., (410) 327-8111  
Latin Palace, 509 S. Broadway, (410) 522-6700  
Lava Lounge, Pier Four, (410) 539-7888  
Ottobar, 2549 N. Howard St., (410) 662-0069  
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, (410) 337-7178  
Redwood Trust, 200 E. Redwood St., (410) 669-9500  
Sonar, 407 E. Saratoga St., (410) 327-8333  
The Talking Head, 203 E. Davis St., (410) 962-5588  
The Vault, 401 W. Baltimore St., (410) 244-6000  
Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames St., (410) 327-4886  
Wyatt's, 1614 Eastern Av., (410) 732-8656

COMEDY

Comedy Factory, 36 Light St., (410) 752-4189  
The Improv, 6 Market Pl. at Power Plant Live, (410) 727-8500  
Red Emma's, 800 St. Paul St. (410) 230-0450  
Tracy's Comedy Shop, 9306 Harford Rd., (410) 665-8600

COFFEE

Borders Bookstore and Music, 415 York Rd., (410) 296-0791  
Cafe Tattoo, 4825 Belair Rd., (410) 325-7427  
Carma's Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., (410) 243-5200  
Donna's, 3101 St. Paul St., (410) 889-3410  
Fell's Point Cafe, 723 S. Broadway, (410) 327-8800  
Funk's Democratic Coffee Spot, 1818 Eastern Ave., (410) 276-3865  
HopStop, Levering Hall, JHU, (410) 516-6219  
Images Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., (410) 235-3054  
Margaret's Cafe, 909 Fell St., (410) 276-5606  
One World Cafe, 100 W. University Parkway, (410) 235-5777  
Sweet Retreat, 3215 N. Charles St. (410) 235-3311  
XandO, 3003 N. Charles St., (410) 889-7076  
Ze Mean Bean Cafe, 1739 Fleet St., (410) 675-5999

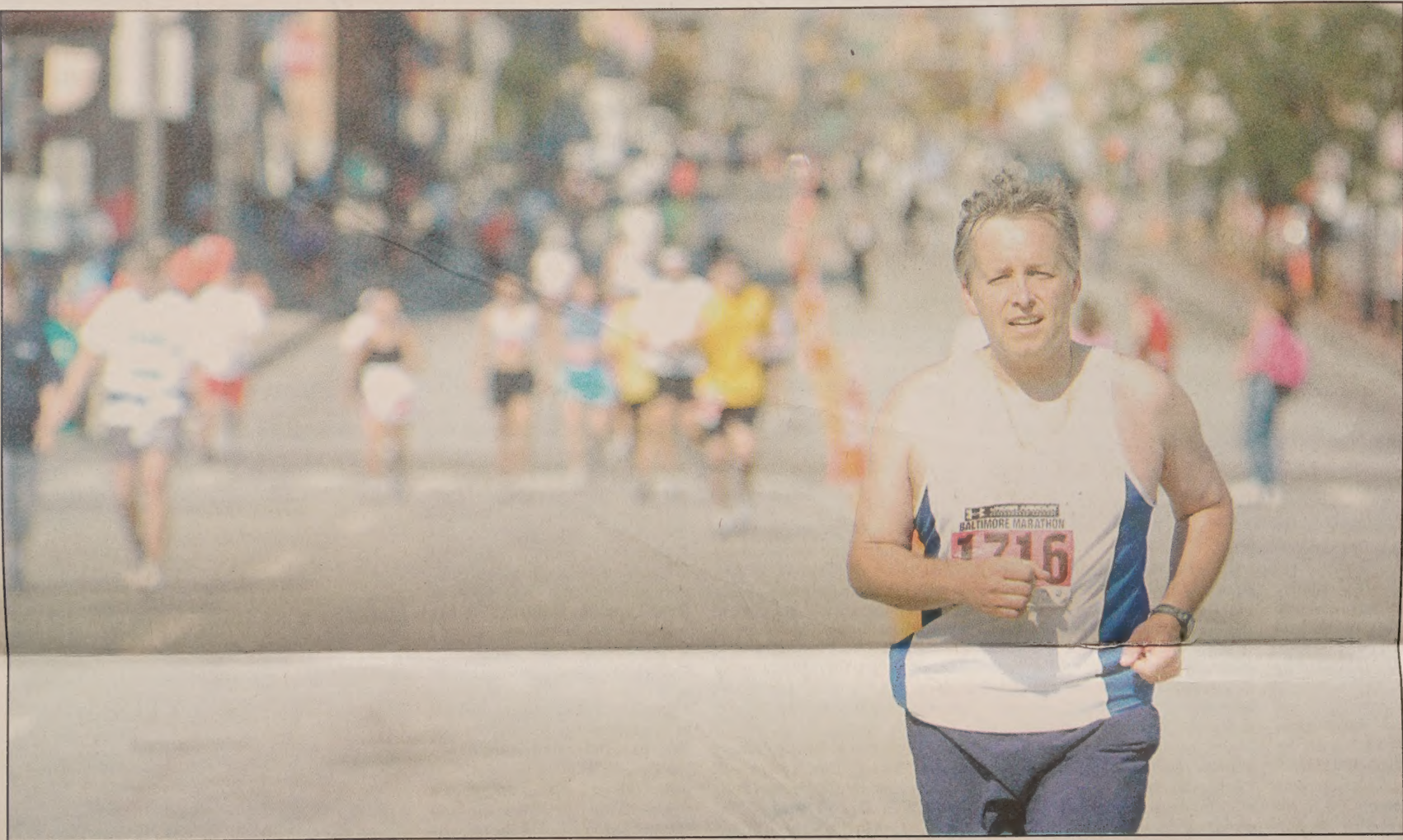
MOVIE THEATRES

AMC Towson Commons 8, 435 York Rd., (410) 825-5233  
Charles Theatre, 1711 N. Charles St., (410) 727-FILM  
Rotunda Cinematheque, 711 W. 40th St., (410) 235-4800  
Senator Theatre, 5904 York Rd., (410) 435-8338



# THE BALTIMORE MARATHON

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MARK MEHLINGER



The Baltimore Marathon took place on Saturday, Oct. 15, with runners competing over 26.2 miles of city streets. Runners began in early morning, and the winners completed the race within two hours. The top finishers were each awarded \$15,000. The race was sponsored by local athletic apparel company Under Armour.

The majority of runners were amateurs, many of whom were running their first marathons. In total, the marathon saw its largest ever number of entrants, with 11,000 runners participating.

It was a year of firsts for the Marathon. In addition to the record number of runners, 2005 marked the first year in the race's five-year history that a Kenyan runner did not win. Instead, Mykokla Antonenko from Ukraine finished first with a time of 2:15:39. The first woman to finish was Russian Ramilya Burangulova, with a time of 2:41:58.

Next year's marathon will take place on Oct. 14, 2006.